

Change of heart 'to ensure safety of innocent neutral shipping'

Britain orders minesweepers to the Gulf

- The Government has changed its mind and ordered four British minesweepers and a support ship to the Gulf to join the Navy's Armilla Patrol
- The second American convoy through the Gulf of three US-flagged tankers and four warships reached Kuwait safely after a 36-hour delay
- France is sending two minesweepers, with escort ships, to reinforce its task force in the Indian Ocean, which yesterday entered the Gulf of Aden
- The Americans are sending the helicopter carrier USS Guadalcanal into the Gulf with eight minesweeping helicopters on board

By Michael Evans, Defence Correspondent

The Government changed its mind over sending minesweepers to the Gulf yesterday after a strong recommendation by the First Sea Lord, Admiral Sir William Staveley, and ordered four vessels and a support ship to leave for the area as quickly as possible.

Mr George Younger, the Secretary of State for Defence, was careful to stress that the four minesweepers, which would be given added firepower, were being sent to supplement the Royal Navy's Armilla Patrol of three warships and were not being offered for general sweeping duties throughout the Gulf.

France to reinforce task force

From Susan Macdonald, Paris

France is sending two minesweepers, with escort ships, to reinforce its task force in the Indian Ocean. M. Andre Girard, the Defence Minister, said yesterday. They would reinforce the aircraft carrier, two frigates and a supply ship which left Toulon two weeks ago.

But the French Interior Minister, M. Charles Pasqua, said France would not engage in any specific minesweeping operations in the Gulf. The task force yesterday entered the Gulf of Aden where it will carry out exercises.

Meanwhile, M. Pasqua said there was no proof that Iran was involved in the terrorist bombings in Paris in 1986. "We suspect that links exist between certain terrorist groups and members of the Iranian Embassy in Paris, but we have never said that Iran itself was involved."

PO chairman

Sir Bryan Nicholson, aged 55, chairman of the Manpower Services Commission, is to succeed Sir Ron Davies as chairman of the Post Office on October 22. Page 19

Exam results

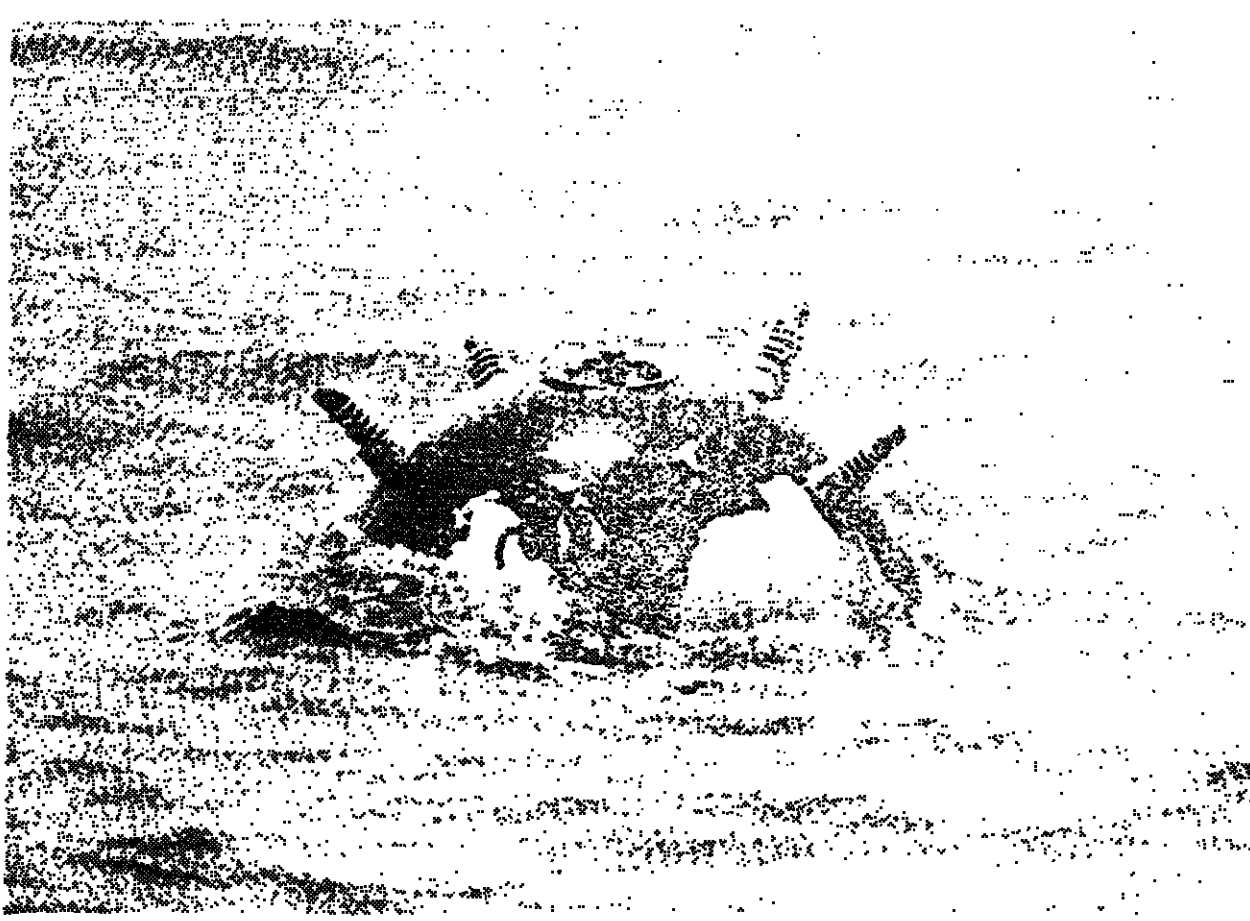
Degrees awarded by Heriot-Watt University and Loughborough University of Technology are published today. Page 25

Portfolio Gold

- There is £2,000 to be won in today's Portfolio Gold competition, double the usual amount because there was no winner yesterday.
- Portfolio list, page 22.

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One of the three potentially deadly mines found yesterday off Fujairah, menacing shipping in the Gulf of Oman anchorage.

England salvage some pride

Mike Gattling and Ian Botham

Mike Gattling and Ian Botham turned almost inevitable defeat into an heroic draw at the Oval yesterday as England salvaged their pride in the fifth and final Cornhill Test match.

Gattling, the captain, scored a magnificent unbeaten 150, ably partnered by Botham (51 not out), to deny Pakistan a 2-0 series victory which had looked likely when the day's play began.

They came together after 75 minutes play with England at 139 for four in their second innings and facing an innings defeat. But they were still there when Imran Khan, Pakistan's captain, called it off 30 minutes early.

The partnership survived for 72 overs and took England to 315 for four, 161 runs short of Pakistan's first innings total.

But after four days of near humiliation, Gattling and Botham at least lessened the pain of England's third consecutive home series defeat and Pakistan's first since 1952.

In a near six-hour stay at the crease, Gattling's 302-ball vigil included 21 fours and earned him a ninth Test century and his fifth three-figure score from the last 14 Tests. His reward was England's man of the series award.

Botham, playing his last Test innings this year, and perhaps of all time, had to settle for the thanks of his colleagues. He ignored almost all temptation to attack as he battled through 253 minutes and 210 deliveries, displaying a level of concentration many thought beyond him.



Victor: Imran Khan with the Cornhill Trophy

Crisis will force revision of child abuse treatment

By Ian Smith

Sweeping changes in the treatment and management of child abuse cases will result from the judicial inquiry which opened yesterday.

At the outset of the hearing at Middlesbrough Town Hall, ordered by the Secretary of State for Health in the wake of the Cleveland child abuse controversy, Mrs Justice Butler-Sloss was urged to recommend an immediate review of government sexual abuse guidelines which local authorities follow.

Under scrutiny by Mrs Justice Butler-Sloss and her three assessors will be the provision of a central register of child abuse victims, medical agreement over diagnostic techniques and review of court proceedings which bring trauma to children and parents.

Both Dr Marietta Higgs and Dr Geoffrey Wyatt, the paediatricians at Middlesbrough General Hospital who diagnosed 83 cases of sexual abuse in six weeks, were at the hearing.

Mr Mathew Thorpe, QC, representing the Treasury Solicitor, described the increase as "phenomenal" causing disagreement and conflict, tearing families apart and giving Cleveland a place in the history books.

Mr Simon Hawkesworth, QC, appearing on behalf of

Space race warning to ministers

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

The Government was given a warning yesterday that Britain would have to watch the rest of the world exploit space unless it had the confidence to support the £300 million space development plan proposed by Mr Roy Gibson, who recently resigned as director general of the British National Space Centre.

The warning came from the Space Society, whose members include space technologists, bankers, lawyers, industrialists and senior civil servants.

A statement from the society's chairman, Mr Tony Sumner of the merchant bank Kleinwort Benson, regrets the rejection of the British space plan, which led to the resignation of Mr Gibson, who is president of the Space Society.

The society believes the increase recommended in the Gibson space plan from £100 million to £300 million a year is modest by government standards and when viewed against the higher amount already spent by Italy, India, Canada, West Germany and Japan.

The large sums spent by the United States, Russia and China, and the fact that France pays nine times more than Britain, are all seen as a recognition by those countries of the importance of space technology to their future prosperity. Spectrum, page 8

Rhodes visitors urged to cancel

By Harvey Elliott

British tourists planning to fly to the Greek island of Rhodes were last night advised to cancel their holidays as huge fires threatened to sweep down on hotels in the most popular resorts.

Hundreds of holidaymakers in and around the resort of Lindos were evacuated from their hotels as tour operators cancelled flights to Rhodes due today.

Thomas Cook, who have up to 600 clients on the island, were contacting a further 300 due to fly out today and advising them not to travel. "We will offer them alternative accommodation, another holiday or their money back," said a spokesman.

Tour operators Wings said last night that they were advising clients not to travel to Lindos, and had spent most of yesterday trying to telephone 200 who are due to fly out there today, as a state of emergency was declared by the Greek Government.

But Thomson Holidays, who say they have up to 5,000 clients on the island, with another six full flights due out today, will not make changes in their bookings. "We wouldn't put them at risk if we thought there was any danger," a spokesman said.

The blaze has already destroyed more than 25,000 acres of forest, olive groves, vineyards and fruit orchards and killed livestock.

● ATHENS: As the wind changed direction last night, the blaze reached the outskirts of Archangelos, a township of 4,500, halfway between Lindos and the town of Rhodes (Mario Modiano writes).

Lardos and Pefkoi, two holiday sites favoured by British tourists, near Lindos, were hastily emptied.

More mines but US convoy safe

From Robert Fisk, Dubai

America's second convoy through the Gulf reached Kuwait safely yesterday afternoon without damage to its three US-flagged oil tankers and four US naval escorts, but only after a delay of 36 hours to deal with a mine which had been discovered on the seabed in the convoy's path.

The American ships are now expected to escort the damaged supertanker Bridgeton - struck by a mine on the first in-bound convoy but now partially loaded with oil - out of the Gulf and through the Strait of Oman.

Any joy this first in-bound convoy's success may have produced in Washington, however, will have been overshadowed by the discovery yesterday of further mines in the Gulf of Oman, in the very waters where the Americans form their convoys for the Kuwait voyage and where, indeed, British frigates of the Armilla patrol regularly refuel.

The news last night that both Britain and France were now sending minesweepers to the Gulf area had been regarded by shipping agents here as inevitable once mines appeared in the Gulf of Oman, although the British minesweepers are believed to have been instructed to sail only as far as Bahrain on the naval voyages already undertaken.

Yesterday's convoy had been delayed on the last stage of its journey to Kuwait by a mine weighted to the seabed in just such a channel. It was apparently discovered by American helicopters flying from one of the escorting warships which used sonar equipment to detect devices in the water. US naval commanders have no doubt that this mine was laid by Iran although - like the mine which struck the Bridgeton - it may be impossible to prove.

The discovery of more mines off Fujairah yesterday sets an even bleaker problem for the Americans, whose naval vessels are more vulnerable to this type of warfare than their supertankers. Nor

Continued on page 18, col 6

Prisons poach nurses by doubling NHS pay

By Jill Sherman, Social Services Correspondent

The Home Office is poaching National Health Service nurses for its prison medical services by offering almost double the NHS rates of pay.

The move, which is likely to exacerbate the NHS nurse recruitment crisis, has already prompted calls from the Royal College of Nursing (RCN) for the health service to compete with similar rates of pay.

Last year more than 30,000 qualified nurses left the NHS, many of them attracted by higher pay in the private sector and abroad.

Yesterday the prison medical services admitted that they had had recruitment difficulties and were still 21 per cent short of their 1,200 nurse establishment.

Mr Peter Barker, hospital officer responsible for nursing manpower, said

in the NHS earns only £7,300, rising to £8,600 after five years.

Last night the RCN said it was pleased that one Government department had decided to pay nurses what they were worth but added: "If the Government can find the money for the prison service, why can't they find it for the NHS so that they can stem the flow of nurses leaving?"

Last year more than 30,000 qualified nurses left the NHS, many of them attracted by higher pay in the private sector and abroad.

Yesterday the prison medical services admitted that they had had recruitment difficulties and were still 21 per cent short of their 1,200 nurse establishment.

Mr Peter Barker, hospital officer responsible for nursing manpower, said

that the new restructuring proposals had been designed both to achieve equal opportunities and introduce a higher proportion of qualified staff. Under the previous structure, men with no nursing qualifications were paid more as hospital officers than female qualified nurses.

Now the organization has been restructured so that male and female qualified nurses can both be employed as hospital officers.

This gives female nurses the right to open and lock cells and gives them greater responsibility. Mr Barker denied that they would be in greater danger of being attacked.

Miss Harriet Harman, Labour's health spokeswoman, said last night that the Home Office rates undermined the fact that NHS nurses were undervalued and underpaid.

Trade figures boost shares

By Rodney Lord, Economics Editor

Share prices continued their recovery yesterday as the markets breathed a sigh of relief at June trade figures that showed a substantially smaller deficit than in May.

Carrying on from Monday's revival, the FT-SE 100 index closed 33.2 up at 2275.4.

Earlier in the day shares had fluctuated sharply, rising after the trade figures were announced at 11.30am, then falling back and finally responding to new buying during later trading.

Gilt-edged prices fell on the trade figures but finished the day up by 1/2 of a point.

Sterling was firm, closing 90 points higher against the mark.

at DM2.9700, with the effective rate index 0.3 firmer at 72.2.

Exports in June were little changed at £5.373 billion against £6.347 billion, while imports fell from £7.473 billion to £7.14 billion. The deficit on visible trade was £768 million against £1.127 billion the previous month, giving a current account deficit of £168 million against £527 million.

The figures, which were widely seen as the key indicator of this week's economic statistics, were broadly as the market expected. Mr Mark Brown of Phillips and Drew, the stockbroker, said: "It fits in with our forecast of a current deficit in the second half of the year of £200m-£300m a month."

In the first half of the year there was a surplus of £37 million. A Treasury spokesman said yesterday that the deficit for the year as a whole would now be smaller than the £2.5 billion forecast at the time of the Budget.

Analysts were, however, anxious about the buoyancy of imports of cars and other consumer goods and the fall in imports of capital goods for industrial re-equipment.

The City's eyes are now fixed on tomorrow's figures on pay trends, and Friday's inflation statistics. A small increase in the underlying rate of pay increases is widely expected, while inflation is anticipated to rise from 4.2 per cent to about 4.5 per cent before falling back.

Mr John Banham, director-general of the Confederation of British Industry, said: "The June trade figures are the third set of official statistics this week to show that worries about the economy overheating are unjustified."

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NEWS SUMMARY

Rover plant sold to management

The Rover Group is to sell off its radiator and seat frame subsidiary in South Wales to the plant's management and 850 employees for an undisclosed price.

General Motors was among those interested in buying Llanelli Radiator, but Rover said yesterday that the offer from local management, combined with assurances about employment, research and development and investment, provided the best future for the plant. The buy-out is expected to be completed by early October.

The plant, which has an annual turnover of £30 million, makes all Austin Rover's car radiators, heaters and seat frames as well as supplying rival car makers including Honda UK, Nissan and General Motors.

Since Mr Graham Day joined Rover as chairman in May he has sold Leyland Bus, the parts operation Unipart and recently its computer services operation to management and employees.

Book put on order

Copies of *Spycatcher*, the memoirs of the former MI5 officer, Mr Peter Wright, are to be stocked in Glasgow's main libraries, it was decided yesterday.

An order for 20 copies was made immediately after the decision by the city council's arts and culture committee to stock the book.

Mr Andrew Miller, director of libraries, said later that he expected the books to arrive in Glasgow next week by air freight from the United States, at a total cost of about \$400.

Memorial for officer

A memorial is to be unveiled to Detective Constable John Fordham, who was stabbed to death in a garden at West Kingsdown, Kent, while on undercover investigations into the £26 million Brink's Mat bullion robbery.

It is to be put up on West Kingsdown Green, close to the spot where he was killed.

Lord Denning, former Master of the Rolls, will unveil the red granite memorial on September 1.

Crossbow inquiry

Scotland Yard confirmed yesterday that a police officer who claimed to have been hit twice by a crossbow sniper has been suspended while senior officers investigate the matter.

Police Constable Anthony Geary, aged 20, said a week ago that a crossbow bolt had hit a radio pinned to his chest as he patrolled an estate in south London. He said that a second bolt slashed his arm.

Scotland Yard said that PC Geary had only recently begun patrolling on his own.

Rare disorder strikes

Two young children from the same family have died from a rare disorder which normally only affects three children in every million. Medical experts are now monitoring the family's four surviving children in an attempt to ascertain the cause of Reyer's syndrome and to prevent any further occurrence. The disorder can be treated if caught in time but is often fatal.

An inquest at Worcester was told yesterday that Shazad Ditta, aged five, of Snowhill Close, Worcester, died from the syndrome less than three hours after being taken ill. His sister Yasmin, aged three, died in similar circumstances last year. Verdicts of death by natural causes were recorded.

Third time lucky for sea eagles

By Andrew Morgan

White-tailed eagles, which became extinct in Britain in 1916, have been bred in Scotland for the third year running.

The Nature Conservancy Council reintroduced the birds 12 years ago, with the RAF carrying fledgling eagles from Norway each June to their new home on the island of Rhum.

There, they became used to the Hebridean hills before being released the next autumn.

This year, two pairs produced three chicks, bringing the total raised to six in the past three years.

A group called the Sea Eagle Project Team has monitored the nests in some of the tightest security mounted by ornithologists. So far 82 young birds have been released in the past 10 years.

In 1985 the first sea eagle chick was raised in the wild for more than 70 years. The parents produced two more chicks in 1986 and two more this year.

A second pair of sea eagles, which have made unsuccessful attempts to breed in the past, are responsible for the third of this year's chicks.

Mr Martin Ball, the Nature Conservancy Council's officer for North-west Scotland, said: "The birds released on Rhum are now beginning to populate the Hebridean Islands and we look forward to their further colonization of what was once their ancestral home."

The sea eagles protection scheme is funded by Eagle Star Insurance and organized by the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds and local landowners.

A family of rare spotted flycatchers from Africa have made their summer home in Britain—in a rack of floor mops at Monkwood, near Huntingdon, Cambridgeshire.

Passport charges

Mr Kevin McDonald, the Irish passport official whose extradition to Britain is being sought by London police, may face further as yet unspecified charges, a Dublin court was told yesterday.

Mr McDonald, aged 37, who was based at the Irish Embassy in London, where the alleged illegal sale of passports took place, was remanded on continuing bail of £10,000 during a brief appearance at Dublin District Court.

He will appear in court again on August 28.

Divorcée living with new lover keeps alimony

By Frances Gibb
Legal Affairs Correspondent

A divorced wife must still be paid £4,500 a year in maintenance by her former husband even though she has set up home with another man, two Court of Appeal judges held yesterday.

In a ruling which one of the judges admitted went against what "the man in the street" would say was right, the judges held that although a wife as a matter of policy loses her right to maintenance if she remarries, that does not normally extend to cohabitation.

Lord Justice May and Mr

Justice Waterhouse dismissed an appeal by Mr Robert Atkinson, of the Grove, West Hartlepool, Cleveland, described as a "successful businessman", against a £4,500 maintenance order without time limit.

They said it was "irrelevant" that there was a sexual aspect to the woman's relationship; her financial position was just as if she was living with her brother.

The ruling, likely to be contested in the House of Lords, has wide implications for divorced husbands paying maintenance and seems to fly in the face of the "clean break"

principle of recent legislation.

But the Court of Appeal said the principle could not be achieved in all circumstances. In the present case, the wife had little earning capacity and her cohabitee earned a small wage as a nurseryman.

Mr Atkinson and his wife Angela were divorced in 1982 after a 22-year marriage. He had given her a house, car, lump-sum payment and made maintenance payments which he increased by consent to £6,000 a year in 1983.

But when she moved in with another man he objected to continuing maintenance.

Mr Robert Johnson, QC, for Mr Atkinson, had argued that a former wife who cohabits permanently with another man should not be in a better position than a former wife who remarries, or the law would "seem to be an ass".

He said the former wife and the other man had a "massive incentive" to remain unmarried while maintenance continued.

But Lord Justice May ruled yesterday that Mrs Atkinson had not acquired any "right of support" or "similar rights of a married woman" in living with the man, a Mr Jeffs.

The judge conceded that if

the question of whether maintenance should be payable was "put to a man in the street, rather than a woman", the immediate response would be that it should end when she went to live with another man.

Mr Atkinson had contested the maintenance before Judge Forrester-Paton at Hartlepool County Court. He reduced the maintenance to £4,500 but said he was unable to end it or reduce it to a nominal sum and yesterday the Court of Appeal agreed.

Lord Justice May said that after the divorce Mrs Atkinson, whose two children were

grown-up, went to live in Allerton Drive, Nether Poppleton, Yorkshire. After selling the house she had a bed and breakfast business at Dunnington, nearby, but it was unsuccessful.

The mortgage she and Mr Jeffs obtained on their Acomb house had been partly on the basis of her income from her husband's maintenance. Judge Forrester-Paton was satisfied the decision of the couple not to marry was "financially motivated to a large extent" but felt bound by legal precedent not to reduce maintenance to a nominal sum.

Productivity records put top miners on £20,000

By Staff Reporters

Record-breaking productivity is putting British coal miners into the £20,000-a-year bracket even before overtime, according to British Coal.

The money is being made up with bonus payments, particularly at the "super-pits" in the Yorkshire and Nottinghamshire coalfields, and underlines how much members of the National Union of Mineworkers stand to lose if they vote for industrial action over the revised disciplinary code.

Voting among the 90,000 NUM members is taking place over the next three weeks, with the result expected on August 23. If the vote for action is confirmed, an overtime ban is almost certain to be called.

Talks to avert industrial action take place today between negotiating teams led by Mr Arthur Scargill, the NUM president, and Sir Robert Haslam, chairman of British Coal. But the meeting has already been soured by a propaganda battle over a British Coal video film outlining its case.

Miners in South Wales held their ballot yesterday, three days earlier than planned, after learning that British Coal planned to show them the film, featuring Mr Denzil George, the area's industrial relations manager.

When British Coal heard of the ballot date switch, it despatched copies of the film around the coalfield. By the time most miners had voted yesterday, the film had been shown at a number of pit canteens and in what management described as "strategic locations" chosen by pit managers.

The reaction of the South Wales leaders to the film is a blow to British Coal, as it is the only area which has said it would agree to the concept of six-day production in the industry which British Coal is demanding as part of greater flexibility.

The latest output and pay figures show that in May faceworkers were earning £223 a week. The figure for all underground workers was £198 and the average for all surface workers £190.

Labour's conference may face staff picket

By Philip Webster, Chief Political Correspondent

Unions representing Labour Party staff warned Mr Larry Whitty, the general secretary, yesterday that they would refuse to accept any job cuts.

The threat of a confrontation between staff and the party leadership remained last night after the first of a likely long and tense series of meetings between Mr Whitty and the joint trade union committee, representing five unions at the headquarters at Walworth Road, south-east London, and in the regions.

Some staff are threatening to embarrass the party by picketing its annual conference in Brighton next month.

Mr Whitty, who has been accused of "practising Thatcherism", is seeking the removal of 40 jobs, many of them unskilled, and the closure of the party's newspaper, *Labour Weekly*, in an attempt to make cuts of £1.2 million.

The negotiations got off to a

small proportion of the top faceworkers are able to earn between £45 and £48 a day in bonus payments on top of their weekly wage, as a result of increased production brought about by investment in new machinery.

The high earnings, of up to nearly £400 a week, go to miners breaking productivity targets, which vary from pit to pit. On top of that, the faceworkers can opt for overtime which raises their earnings even higher.

British Coal announced last month that men in the Selby showcase colliery had broken their own all-time British output and productivity record.

Men at Wistow, one of the five pits in the Selby complex in North Yorkshire, cut 17.5 tonnes of coal a man-shift in a week. Their previous record was 15.26 tonnes. The 900 Wistow miners were producing almost five times the national average and setting the pace for national earnings.

Mr Albert Tuke, the North Yorkshire area director, said that the pit was reaping the rewards of substantial investment in heavy duty equipment and new technology. Selby was established as a multi-million pound investment for British Coal with the aim of producing four to five times the national coal output.

Meanwhile, workers at open-cast mines in South Wales are to stage a one-day strike today after voting overwhelmingly for a stoppage in protest over the lack of job security.

Nearly 2,000 workers, belonging to the Transport and General Workers Union, are due to heed the strike call at all six open-cast sites, which are put out to tender by British Coal to the Federation of Civil Engineering Contractors.

The union has accused the federation of refusing to give the workers any guarantees of job security when open-cast sites are closed or extended.

The federation says its hands are tied by British Coal which itself has to apply for planning permission when it wants to extend the sites.

Irish embassy staff on strike



By Robin Young

Striking staff picketed the Irish embassy in London yesterday in protest at plans to move 13 of them back to Dublin. They are clerical assistants and staff officers with up to ten years' service in London, and the Civil and Public Services Staff Union claims that their lives would be unfairly disrupted if they are recalled now.

They were originally appointed on condition that they would stay in London for at least two years, but in 1983 the Irish Department of

Foreign Affairs ruled that all future embassy postings should last for a fixed term of four years.

Now the foreign affairs department is recalling all staff who have been in London for less than ten years. With an embargo on Civil Service recruitment in Ireland, and few opportunities for promotion, the department is keen to rotate as many of its staff as possible.

In Dublin, the foreign affairs department denied the strikers' claim that their action would disrupt the embassy's passport and consular services.

Ferry hearing

Captain faces dismissal fight

By Rodney Cowton, Transport Correspondent

Representatives of Captain David Lewry, who was master of the ferry Herald of Free Enterprise, which capsized last March, are to challenge the procedures under which Townsend Thoresen are seeking to discipline and possibly dismiss him.

It is believed that Townsend Thoresen may seek his dismissal but his union, the National Union of Marine, Aviation and Shipping Transport Officers (Numast), and its solicitor are dissatisfied with the internal procedures of the company.

Mr Eric Newin, the union's general secretary, spoke yesterday of the " kangaroo court nature of what is going on". He said that the company was trying to make Captain Lewry the principal focus of blame.

It is understood that Cap-

tain John Kirby, senior master of the Herald, who was not aboard the ferry at Zeebrugge, has been demoted from senior master to master after appearing before a disciplinary panel.

Captain Kirby is regarded as being less culpable than Captain Lewry and Mr Leslie Sabel, the chief officer. He is believed to have been demoted for a year.

Captain Lewry's hearing will be held in Dover tomorrow and it is understood it will be presided over by Mr John Stevenson, deputy managing director, with Mr Michael Chaston, Townsend's personnel manager, and a master from another part of the P&O fleet.

Captain Lewry will have the right of appeal to the managing director.

The union is also calling on

the company to state the precise charges and the evidence against Captain Lewry.

Mr Newin said that the official inquiry conducted by Mr Justice Sheen ordered that Captain Lewry's certificate of competency as a master should be suspended for a year but made no recommendation of further disciplinary proceedings.

Mr Martin Sutton, the union's solicitor, said the company "was going over the top in punishing him twice".

Mr Justice Sheen found Captain Lewry guilty of "serious negligence".

But Mr Newin added that the planned action appeared to mean that he would be the only officer who would be subject to serious discipline additional to that meted out by the inquiry.

Golden hellos for council staff

By John Spicer
Employment Affairs Correspondent

Local authorities are being forced to pay "signing-on fees" out of the rates to attract specialist staff to London, according to a report by the Greater London Employers' Secretariat.

Most of London's 34 local authorities are offering other incentives, including loyalty bonuses and mortgage and car subsidies, in an effort to attract accountants, computer staff, valuers, surveyors and environmental health officers, the report, released yesterday, says.

It highlights the growing problems faced by local government because of the shortage of key workers, high salaries in the private sector and the difficulties of attracting specialists to London with its high cost of living. The report says: "The recruitment and retention of employees has become a widespread problem affecting all of the London boroughs."

More than 20 boroughs now offer pay supplements of £3,000 to £4,500 a year to recruit specialist staff, according to the report. Boroughs are also offering from £150 to £3,500, equal to 5 per cent of salary, if recruits stay beyond a year. An employee who stays for three years can expect further payments.

Boroughs have tried in the past to maintain similar pay levels to the private sector, but recent reviews coupled with the acute recruitment difficulties have meant that the policy no longer applies.

There is bitter competition also between authorities to employ people of the necessary calibre. The report says that 22 per cent of councils taking part in the survey said their difficulties were brought about by "poaching by other local authorities".

Some boroughs have introduced "equity sharing" schemes, which allow them to take on up to £50,000 of an employee's mortgage in return for a share of the profit if the house is sold.

The report says that 78 per cent of all local authority management jobs include the provision of a car. Similarly, in some professional areas, the provision of a car is "widespread".

The secretariat published a report last March giving details of the problems local authorities face in finding skilled workers.

The latest report says that the situation has worsened.

Authority censures coin advert

By Ruth Gledhill

A leaflet promoting a tourist complex owned by Mr Peter de Savary, the businessman, was the subject of a successful complaint to the Advertising Standards Authority.

An unnamed member of the public complained after the unsolicited leaflet with a coin attached dropped through his letter box. The leaflet was offering a £1 reduction on admission to Littlecot Park near Hungerford, Berkshire.

The authority upheld the complaint that it was untrue to attach the coin to the unsolicited leaflet because it might fall into the hands of young children.

The complaint against Mr de Savary's company was one of three concerning children investigated in June and upheld. The authority's latest case report discloses.

A Salvation Army officer, two other people, and Action on Alcohol Abuse objected to a series of brochures for the London Refurbishing Company which showed a child playing with or drinking from a bottle of alcoholic drink.

Eight people objected to another advertisement for *Money Magazine* in the national press which included a picture of a baby holding a lit cigar.

Four advertisements, which offended readers because of their depiction of women were investigated by the authority in June but none was in breach of the code.

Council man tells tales on the peripatetic pig

Mr Nelson Crook loves animals but distrusts animal health inspectors. So when Mr Duncan Harper, an animal health inspector with Wiltshire County Council, accused him of keeping a pig in a poke, it ended with Mr Crook offering to give Mr Harper a poke in the eye.

Mr Harper had seen the pig, a young pointer called Dylon, running around the streets of Lyneham, Wiltshire, in the company of a couple of dogs. It caused him concern because at the time there had been an

outbreak of swine fever at Gloucester market and all movements of pigs were supposed to be licensed.

He had reason to believe that Dylon's unfettered trot about broke the regulations, and might even threaten the well-being of pigs for miles around. But when he went to Mr Crook's farm in Bowds Lane, Lyneham, he found a notice displayed: "Beware of the pig".

Pursuing his inquiries, it was claimed in court yesterday, Mr Harper went looking about the farm in search of

the errant pig and found himself peering through a farmhouse window not at the plump, pink animal, but at the stark naked owner, Miss Carol Wallis, aged 24.

Mr Crook, a veteran of 76 summers with a marked antipathy to local bureaucracy, accused Mr Harper of being "nothing but a peeping Tom" and then allegedly "leaded like someone demented" when he suspected that Mr Harper intended to remove Dylon to a slaughterhouse.

Mr Crook has fought the animal health authorities be-

fore—and bested them. For years he refused to let animal health inspectors on to his land to gas badgers, until badger-gassing was finally abandoned.

In court at Wootton Bassett yesterday, Mr Crook was found guilty of obstructing Mr Harper, but promptly told the magistrates that he would refuse to pay the £50 fine and £100 costs.

He was ejected from the court after turning angrily on Mr Harper, accusing him of being a liar. He was forcibly restrained by a police officer

and by his son, Mr Rodney Crook, who had himself been fined £100 with £200 costs.

It was Mr Rodney Crook who had given Dylon, the peripatetic pointer, to Miss Wallis at a time when she was his fiancée.

Every porcine saga has to have a twist in the tail, and here it is. Mr Rodney Crook and Miss Wallis have recently ended their relationship. Dylon remains with the Crooks at the farm but Miss Wallis still calls occasionally—to visit the pig.

Cleveland sexual abuse inquiry

Doctors' wrong diagnoses wrecked families, says QC

By Ian Smith

The traumatic repercussions of child sexual abuse diagnoses which tore apart families, frightened and confused children, stigmatized parents and stretched local authority resources to breaking point were described at the opening of the judicial inquiry into the Cleveland controversy yesterday.

Marriages were wrecked, mothers separated from their children and some fathers suspended from work because of the over-zealous determination by two paediatricians to detect signs of sexual abuse in children initially admitted to Middlesbrough General Hospital to receive treatment for common illnesses, Mr Simon Hawkesworth, QC, said.

Representing between 20 and 30 parents, most of whom had already sought second medical opinions to disprove sexual abuse diagnoses, he said: "In almost every case examination was carried out on the anus or genitals with-

A couple from Cleveland yesterday began the second round of their legal fight to win custody of their three children, diagnosed by Dr Geoffrey Wyatt as being sexually abused.

Seven weeks ago, a Middlesbrough juvenile court ruled against Cleveland social services and decided that the parents could have back their son and two daughters pending a full care order hearing.

The social services immediately obtained ward of court orders enabling them to keep the girls, aged five and seven, and the boy, aged six, in care.

Yesterday the case went to the High Court in Middlesbrough, and Dr Wyatt was expected to give evidence.

The case continues today.

period of time being considered would be remarkable, but to diagnose several cases a week would suggest that such behaviour would be so widespread as to be commonplace in the community.

"There is not a shred of evidence to suggest that such a state of affairs exists in Middlesbrough or elsewhere."

Often "kept in the dark" about social service provision for the children's schooling, state of health and general welfare, the parents were told that unless they admitted their guilt they would find the return of children made difficult.

Mr Hawkesworth alleged that children had been put into the care of unsympathetic and openly hostile authorities at a highly impressionable age.

Barred from seeing their parents for more than one or two hours a week that were inevitably supervised by a social worker and feeling imprisoned by the system, children resorted to smuggling letters in their mothers' handbags because they felt prohibited from openly expressing their feelings. They knew any letters sent openly to their families would be read and censored by social services before posting.

Some children in care, he alleged, had been persuaded they had been abused while fast asleep while on other occasions parents had been told to watch video films of discussions with children in which they allegedly told of an adult's interference.

Mr Hawkesworth said: "They feel with a considerable



Mr Simon Hawkesworth: "Parents in the dark".

depth of emotion that it is they and their children who have been subjected to an abuse as dramatic as the accusations of sexual abuse to which they were subjected.

"From early spring in 1987 to July this year sexual abuse diagnoses have reached almost epidemic proportions."

He criticized as inappropriate the court granting of place of safety orders in cases where there was no history of abuse. These had led to distress and turmoil, marital breakdown and suspension of employment.

Representing the Treasury Solicitor, Mr Matthew Thorpe, QC, told the background which had led to a crisis which would undoubtedly create history because of the phenomenal rise in child abuse diagnoses in Cleveland.

In 1985, after the Jasmine Beckford case, a Department of Health and Social Security circular identified abuse and was offered for consideration by local authorities. Although it was easy to realize the concern of parents, other agencies were more immedi-

ately concerned with the welfare of children. Inevitably that led to a differing view and variance in approach to the problem.

At one end of the spectrum were doctors such as the two paediatricians at Middlesbrough General Hospital and at the other end eminent paediatricians who believed it essential that diagnoses should not rely solely upon one examination but should be based upon tests carried out by other independent experts.

As an example of the build-up in the Cleveland crisis, Mr Thorpe described how in 1986 just two children had been diagnosed as having been sexually abused while from March to July the following

year 90 similar diagnoses had been made.

A conflict developed in which Dr Higgs and Dr Wyatt did not welcome or see the need for second opinions. Parents were left bewildered and baffled and nursing staff at the hospital began to express views that the paediatricians were instituting unorthodox procedures.

Because of the spiralling diagnoses of sexual abuse an inevitable drain on resources resulted and the system began to collapse.

Social services took the side of the paediatricians while families who felt their lives were threatened looked towards police surgeons for support. Ensuing tensions caused the polarization of medical opinion with those involved adopting extreme positions.

In May, Dr Higgs and Dr Wyatt met Dr Alistair Irvine, a police surgeon, and instead of resolving their differences the meeting demonstrated how wide and deep was the gulf between the professionals and how profound their disagreements of how sexual abuse diagnoses should be made.

The two consultants placed emphasis on a single consideration of physical examination and that had given rise to what he called a "clear division" of medical opinion.

The controversy placed such a strain on resources at all levels that the various systems more or less collapsed under the strain, Mrs Justice Butler-Sloss, heading the inquiry, was told.

Mr Thorpe said the consequences of divisions of views was that hospital places and court systems were stretched to breaking point. "It may be that there have been errors of judgement, mistaken convictions or obstinate convictions. It would seem there was enough to fuel the fire which has here burned," Mr Thorpe said.

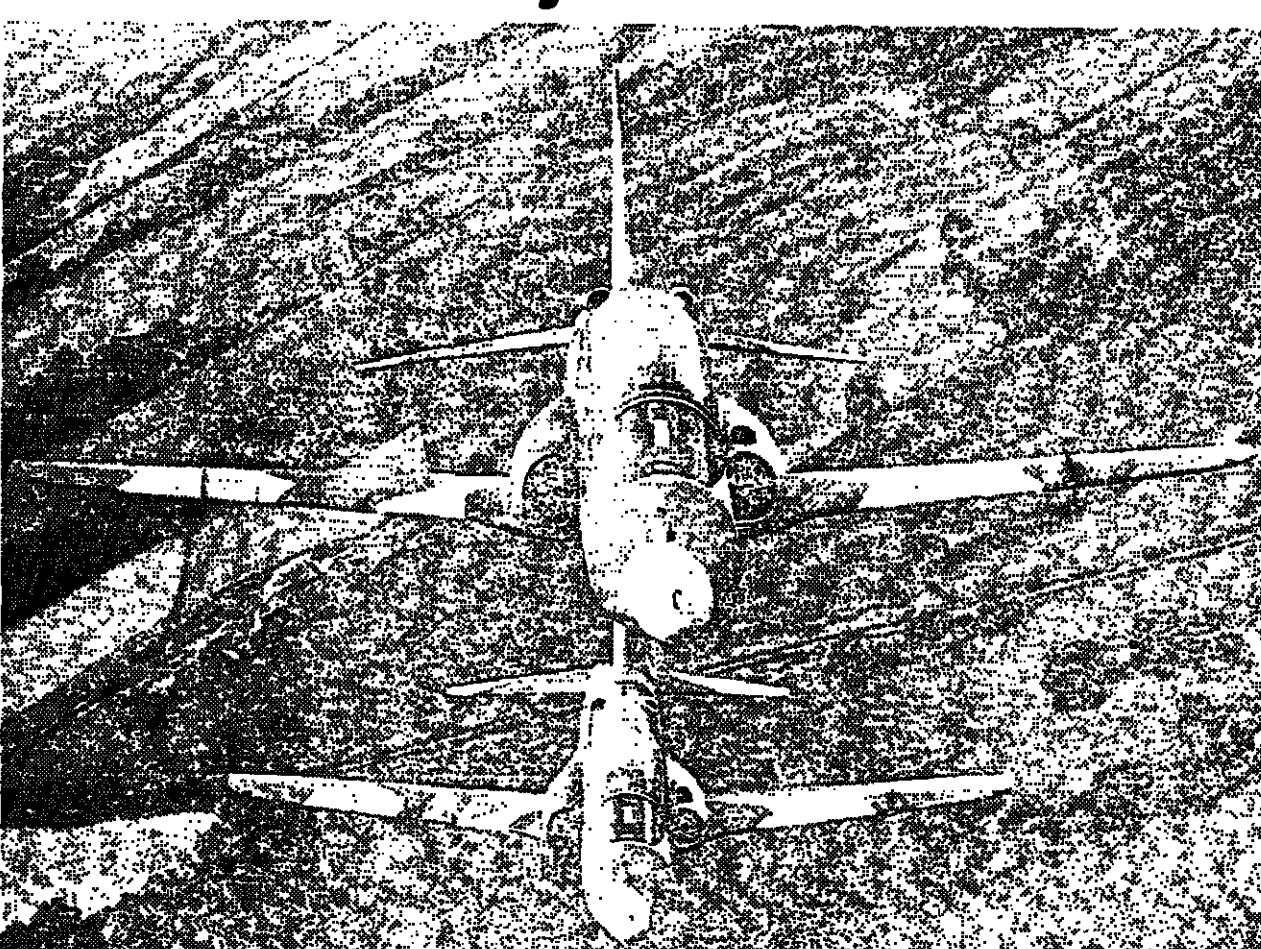
For Cleveland County Council, Mr Robin Stewart, QC, said the authority had been one of the first to take positive steps after the Beckford inquiry.

However it had still come under extreme pressure as a result of the current crisis despite determined attempts to balance the welfare of children and welfare of their families.

Mr Robert Nelson, QC, appearing for Dr Higgs and Dr Wyatt, said the two paediatricians were dedicated, skilled and conscientious people.

The inquiry, which is expected to last three months, continues today.

Hawks hit sky in Saudi colours



Two Mk65 Hawk aircraft flying the Saudi Arabian Royal Air Force colours after being handed over by British Aerospace at Dunsfold, Surrey, yesterday.

The aircraft, to be based at Dhahran and used for training pilots, are part of a £5 billion project to supply the Saudis with a range of military aircraft, including 72 Tornados and 30 Hawks.

Initial training of some Saudi pilots will begin shortly at Dunsfold before the two Hawks are delivered in mid-October. Deliveries will be completed by the end of the next year.

Meanwhile BAe is confident of winning large orders to replace the US Air Force trainer aircraft with a plane based on the Hawk.

Mr Andy Jones, head of market development, said the contract could be for as many as 800 aircraft.

The plane would take the best components of the Hawk and the T-45 Goshawk, which BAe is producing in conjunction with McDonnell Douglas for the US Navy.

(Photograph: Peter Trievnor)

Arthritis research

Aches linked to lovemaking

By Thomson Prentice, Science Correspondent

Lovemaking can lead to painful bouts of arthritis, particularly among younger men and women, scientists have discovered.

The unlikely link is the subject of a new £52,000 project which has been awarded to researchers in London by the Arthritis and Rheumatism Council.

The condition, known as sexually acquired reactive arthritis (Sara), is being investigated by specialists at the Westminster Hospital.

A bacterium called chlamydia trachomatis, which is sexually transmitted and is a common cause of genital tract infections, has been detected in the joints of people with that type of arthritis.

Some people may have genetic characteristics which make them more vulnerable

to the condition, which is most likely to cause aches in their knees and ankles, the researchers have found.

"It is likely that the presence of chlamydia is the stimulus for the inflammatory change which occurs in the joint," Dr Andrew Keat, who is leading the research, said.

The bacterium is believed to trigger an arthritic reaction in a part of the body distant from the initial infection but scientists do not yet know why that occurs. However, research by Dr Keat and colleagues has shown that there is a strong genetic disposition among sufferers, marked by the presence of an antigen, known as HLA B27, which is implicated in a number of other rheumatic diseases.

The prevalence of the con-

dition is unknown but probably involves a small percentage of all arthritis sufferers. Dr Josh Dixey, a Westminster Hospital rheumatologist involved in the new research, said yesterday: "This condition is a common form of arthritis in sexually active adults. It is more likely to affect men but women are also prone to it."

"The disease can be very painful, requiring drug treatment for several months. In nine out of 10 cases it eventually fades away but it can go on to become a chronic condition."

Arthritis and rheumatism are the most widespread serious ailments in Britain, with more than six million people suffering from more than 200 different types of rheumatic disease.

'Cuts may end transplants'

By Jill Sherman, Social Services Correspondent

Children and young adults waiting for bone marrow transplants are in danger of dying of leukaemia because of a shortage of trained nurses at a specialist unit in Hammersmith, a leading consultant has claimed.

The leukaemia unit at Hammersmith Hospital, west London, is critically short-staffed and has already had to close 60 per cent of its beds.

"If we lose any more staff it will be no longer viable to keep the unit open," Dr John Goldman, consultant physician and senior lecturer at the Royal Postgraduate Medical School, Hammersmith, said.

The bed closures have led to soaring waiting lists, which means that many people will have to wait more than a year for treatment.

"Although our full complement is 28 nurses we are

only running at 10 or 11. We cannot even get agency nurses," Dr Goldman said yesterday.

He added: "It is quite immoral to have to say that you cannot have a transplant for over a year."

Dr Goldman says that the Hammersmith unit is one of only two in the world which specializes in treating chronic myeloid leukaemia, a comparatively rare form of the disease affecting the bone marrow, spleen and liver.

Dr Goldman said that as many as 20 per cent of all those on waiting lists might die before they were able to be admitted for bone marrow transplants.

The unit normally does at least 30 transplants a year but that has been cut to 20 because of the nursing shortage.

In a letter to *The Times*, published today, Dr Goldman

joins doctors at the Brompton Hospital who this week called for government action to improve salaries for qualified nursing staff.

A device which enables people who have had cancer of the larynx to speak almost normally is to be demonstrated tomorrow at the International Symposium of the Voice in Scotland, which begins today.

At present many sufferers find talking an embarrassment after a laryngectomy. The latest surgical techniques allow speech within two weeks of the operation, but it is achieved by pressing a finger over a breathing hole in the throat, and is severely impaired. The new aid, a tiny plastic valve which fits into the throat, was developed by Dr Waryam Singh, consultant otolaryngologist at Bangour General Hospital near Livingston. Letters, page 11

Letters, page 11

Parachuting to stop when helicopters fly

Parachute jumps have been ruled out while helicopters are operating at Thuxton airfield, Hampshire, where a novice parachutist died at the weekend.

Miss Paula Goodayle, aged 21, was killed when she drifted into the rotor blades of a helicopter after making her first jump as a fund-raising exercise for charity.

The Thuxton Flight Centre, which owned the helicopter, and the Thuxton Parachute Club agreed yesterday not to operate simultaneously.

The parachute club, which

Man 'wanted' builder to hammer rival

A man accused of attempting to murder his wife asked a private detective agency to give her lover a "hammering", the High Court in Edinburgh was told yesterday.

The agency declined and recommended someone advertising home improvements in a local newspaper.

Fire Officer Alistair Keating denies attempting to murder his wife Margaret by causing the wiring of her car to catch fire when the ignition was switched on. She was badly burnt.

Mr Keating also denies attempting to induce Mr William Adair, the head of a private detective agency, to arrange for Mr Alexander Lusk to be beaten up. He further denies threatening Mr Lusk and sending £100 to Mr Thomas McLanaghan, a builder who advertised for work as an inducement to have Mr Lusk assaulted.

Mr McLanaghan reported the matter to the police.

Mrs Janet Gibson, aged 31, of Bridgend, Mid-Glamorgan, told the court that she was with Mr Keating in Bourne-mouth on August 20 last year when he learned that his wife had been burnt in her car. Mr Keating told Mrs Gibson he had carried out work on his wife's car the previous week and he felt bad about what had happened to her.

The case continues today

Chief role in drugs run denied

By Michael Hersmell

A wine bar manager who allegedly master-minded a plot to use a baby as cover for a £110,000 cannabis smuggling run, yesterday denied any involvement in the plan.

Salvatore Di Prima, from Woking, Surrey, accused the prosecution's main witness, Gerard Allen, of the "borrow a baby" scheme. Allen, who has pleaded guilty to smuggling the drugs, turned Queen's Evidence last week.

Mr Di Prima, aged 30, was giving evidence at Exeter Crown Court on the fifth day of the trial in which he has pleaded not guilty to smuggling 43 kg of cannabis from Spain to Plymouth in the specially converted petrol tank of a Lancia car.

It was driven by a couple he allegedly recruited to make the run. The couple, the court has been told, borrowed a baby girl aged 16 months to act as a decoy to make customs officers believe they were a normal family returning from holiday when they came back on the ferry MV Quiberon from Santander last August.

Last week Allen, aged 24, a builder from Thornton Heath, Surrey, alleged that Mr Di Prima organized the plot with the help of Italian associates.

Yesterday Mr Di Prima told the jury that he had merely arranged ferry bookings for the couple at the request of Allen, with whom he was setting up a travel business.

Sharon Walters, aged 21, and Robert Patrick, aged 30, a painter and decorator, both from Norwood, south London, who borrowed the baby, Allen and one other accomplice all pleaded guilty to smuggling.

Mr Di Prima and Richard Taylor, aged 38, unemployed, from Upper Norwood, London, pleaded not guilty.

Mr Di Prima was arrested near Plymouth while driving a BMW in convoy with the Lancia but told the court he went there to meet Mr Allen off the ferry.

The trial continues today

BBC advice group gets woman head

By Ruth Gledhill

Baroness Blackstone of Stoke Newington, a member of the Cabinet's think tank during the Wilson and Callaghan Governments, has become the first woman to head the body which advises the British Broadcasting Corporation on its programming and business affairs.

Lady Blackstone, master elect of Birkbeck College and former director of education at the Inner London Education Authority, has been invited by the BBC's board of governors to become chairwoman of the General Advisory Council from January 1 next year.

During her four-year appointment Lady Blackstone will head three meetings a year of the advisory council, which has 60 members including members of Parliament, a bishop and members of the House of Lords. The former chairman, Lord Crowther-Hunt, who was appointed in 1986, died earlier this year.

Meetings of the advisory council, which has been in existence since 1935, are attended by the chairman of the BBC, the director general, members of the board of governors and the board of management.

Lady Blackstone, who took

her title earlier this year after being nominated for a peerage by the Labour Party, has made regular appearances on *Stop the Week*, *Any Questions* and *Question Time* and published a number of books on education.

Other members of the council include Mrs Edwina Currie, MP, Miss Brenda Dean, Sir Nicholas Henderson and the Rt Rev Graham Leonard, the Bishop of London.

A new colour scheme is to replace the traditional "Dad's Army" olive green on BBC television's lorries used to ferry outside location units about the country.

The BBC has commissioned a new corporate livery in light grey and a slightly altered logo from an outside design group.

The new look, in place on just one lorry yesterday, is to be phased in over the next two and a half years as the BBC's more than 1,000 vehicles come up for resprays.

Mr Michael Bunce, controller of information services for the BBC, said: "The old vehicles, which were Dad's Army khaki, did not do a great deal for the image of the BBC." Mr Bunce refused to disclose the cost of the project, believed to be a low five-figure sum.

Yard pays tribute to detective

By Our Crime Reporter

Scotland Yard yesterday provided full police honours for the funeral of a London detective who shot himself after being questioned in an internal inquiry into a senior Yard officer.

Deputy Commissioner John Dellow led hundreds of officers at the funeral in south London of Det Constable Alan Holmes, a member of the task force set up to look into organized crime after the £26 million Brink's Mat robbery.

Det Chief Supt Brian Boyce, head of the task force, told mourners that Mr Holmes had been an exemplary policeman.

"A man who had a face as hard as granite but a heart as soft and vulnerable as a butterfly," Among the 80 wreaths were many from police officers, stations, the flying squad and masonic groups. One of those was dedicated to "our brave, wonderful and wonderful master who chose death rather than dishonour his friends and workmates."

Scotland Yard's complaints investigation bureau is investigating allegations against Commander Ray Adams, head of the Yard's criminal intelligence bureau. Mr Holmes had been questioned but was not under suspicion.

Another 14 are awaiting valuations and police are waiting to see nine others. A further 13 people abroad have yet to come forward and the Yard is using Interpol to reach them.

Losses have been running on average at £200,000 to £250,000. Mr Holbrook said: "On the figures so far we need only two more losers like the top losers so far and we will go above the Brink's Mat figure."

Most of the losers are from abroad but Mr Holbrook believes the owners of 20 to 27 boxes will never come forward and many of those will prove to be British. Police strongly suspect the centre was used by London criminals who, they

Safe deposit haul may provide thieves' pensions

By Stewart Tendler, Crime Reporter

Scotland Yard believes that the Knightsbridge safe deposit robbery a month ago might have been carried out by ageing criminals as a final crime before retirement to "earn a pension" and that the London underworld is carrying out its own investigation.

Losses from the robbery have now reached more than £20 million and the final total will almost certainly exceed the record £26 million lost in the Brink's Mat gold robbery four years ago.

Police hold out no hope of an early arrest. They are still

trying to trace box-holders at the safe deposit centre opposite Harrods.

Two women lost jewellery worth nearly £10 million, including a £3 million diamond ring. Several customers had cash in excess of £500,000 in their boxes, including one who deposited bundles of money just before the raid.

The money could easily be converted but jewellery will probably have to be broken down and descriptions have been sent to jewellers.

The 86 boxes are shared between 80 known losers. Fifty seven have identified their losses to the police.

Cut urged in driving examiners' workload

Driving test examiners are under too much stress and should conduct eight instead of nine tests each day, government researchers have recommended (Our Motor Industry Correspondent writes).

Implementing the recommendation would be likely to increase the delays for tests.

The average waiting time is two and a half weeks longer than the 11 weeks considered acceptable but in London it takes more than 15 weeks to secure a test date.

Whether the delays can be reduced depends on the success of the Department of Transport's recruitment drive for new examiners.

Low pay and arduous working conditions for the 1,555 examiners make the job unattractive and privatizing the examining organization is being considered.

In an effort to make up for tests lost because of weather conditions, tests in London and the South-east this winter will start at 8.15 am instead of 9 am as an experiment.

Last year the driving test was passed by only 49 per cent of the 1.8 million applicants.

Tube muggings cut by quarter

Muggings at some south London Underground stations have fallen by 25 per cent in the first half of this year, it was disclosed yesterday when Mr David Mitchell, Minister of State for Transport, visited the British Transport Police offices at Stockwell.

Mr Mitchell said the drive to eliminate ticket fraud had resulted in 1,250 people being considered for prosecution.

Crane plunge inquest opens

An inquest was opened and adjourned at Westminster yesterday into the death of a Syrian who plunged 150ft from a crane during a Moslem festival in Regent's Park.

Monas Kailany, aged 28, of Perryon Road, Acton, west London, prayed to Mecca before falling to his death in spite of police attempts to talk him down.

Church raids

Police hunting gangs who have robbed 30 churches in Suffolk this year have advised clergymen to bolt their doors and open only for services. Ten churches have been raided in the last six weeks and stolen items have included medieval carved furniture and silverware.

Award spent

Mr Geoffrey Davis, aged 41, of Brimington, Derbyshire, who was awarded £125,000 compensation after being wrongly jailed for murder, says that he has spent it all in less than two years and run up debts of £25,000.

Altar plea

The Rev David Hughes, appealing for the return of an altar stolen from his church, All Saints, Wellingborough, said yesterday that he feared it might be serving as a dining room table.

Bomb found

Police sealed off a street in the centre of Leicester yesterday after an unexploded bomb was found in a gutter.

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THE SPECIAL EDITION PEUGEOT 205 JUNIOR

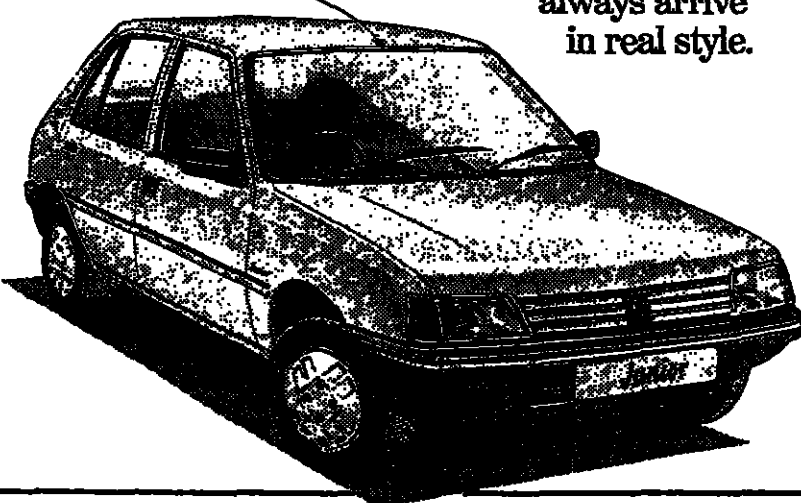
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APR	0%	0%	2.8%	3.9%	8.8%	4.9%
LIST PRICE (including estimated on road costs)	5465.00	5465.00	5465.00	5465.00	5465.00	5465.00
DEPOSIT MIN. 30% 50%	1093.04	2732.48	1093.00	2732.50	1093.00	2732.50
REPAYMENT PERIOD	12 MONTHS	12 MONTHS	24 MONTHS	24 MONTHS	36 MONTHS	36 MONTHS
FINANCE CHARGES	—	—	348.76	109.34	655.76	305.10
MONTHLY PAYMENTS	364.33	227.1	196.74	118.41	138.66	81.60
APPROX. WEEKLY EQUIVALENT	84.08	52.55	45.41	27.33	32.23	19.33
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Bar Council backs single-lawyer crown court cases

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

The Bar Council has agreed in principle to change its rules to allow a barrister to take simple cases in the crown court without the need for a solicitor to be there to assist him.

The change, approved as part of a new draft code of conduct, may heighten tension between the Bar and the solicitors' branch of the profession, who are at odds over advocacy rights in the crown court. But it could mean cost savings for the public, who under existing rules have to pay for two lawyers.

The Law Society, which represents solicitors in England and Wales, has been strongly opposed to any such change unless solicitors are at the same time given the right to take simple crown court cases.

Mr Henry Brooke, QC, who chairs the Bar Council's professional standards committee, said: "The Bar is quite satisfied that there is a class of case where it would be appropriate for a barrister alone to have a solicitor in court. We believe this is an area where there could be savings made and we are willing to change our rules".

He emphasized that the Bar

Council would not proceed with the change before consultation with the Lord Chief Justice, the rest of the judiciary and the Law Society. "We don't want judges refusing to hear members of the Bar because a solicitor is not in court."

Mr Andrew Lockley, the society's director of legal practices, said yesterday that the Law Society was prepared to be "flexible" about allowing barristers to appear alone in simple cases such as guilty pleas and commitments, if there were appropriate safeguards.

He said: "We are concerned to ensure that as a result of the two branches of the profession fixing up a new arrangement, the public does not suffer from a lower quality of service". If barristers appeared alone, it was important that they carried out all the duties now done by a solicitor when attending at court.

Mr Lockley said that in discussing the terms for barristers taking cases on their own, the Law Society had not gone back on its policy that solicitors should also be able to take simple crown cases.

The Government is keen to secure changes in the prof-

ession's working practices in the pursuit of greater efficiency. The issue of using one lawyer instead of two for simple crown court cases came up last year in the context of the legal aid fees negotiations.

The final pay package agreed between the profession and the Lord Chancellor's Department included the setting up of an Efficiency Commission to look at current working practices and see where economies might be achieved. The two branches have already endorsed the use of one lawyer for magistrates' courts but the stumbling block is the crown court, at present the Bar's preserve.

Research by the Efficiency Commission suggests that solicitor-advocates are likely to be cost-effective or even cheaper than barristers when the case is short and there is little travelling and waiting time.

Alongside the discussions of the Efficiency Commission, the two branches have set up a committee on the future of the legal profession. One of its chief topics is the issue of wider rights of audience for solicitors.

First shots in cancer campaign



Mr Angus Ogilvy (centre left), president of the Imperial Cancer Research Fund, and directors, physicians, doctors and nurses from Britain's leading cancer charities yesterday launched *One Day For Life*, which will be a book of photographs taken on a single day to reflect life in Britain. The book project - to be photographed on Friday - is the

opening shot in Search 88, the largest national fund-raising campaign against cancer, that has set itself a target of £75 million by the end of 1988. Everyone is invited to participate in *One Day For Life*, and the most striking and evocative photographs will be published in November in a book of the same name. Photographs are to be sent to Search 88

with a minimum £1 donation to the trust. Commercial sponsorship will meet the costs of the project. The four prime beneficiaries of Search 88 are the Imperial Cancer Research Fund, the Cancer Relief Macmillan Fund, the Marie Curie Memorial Foundation, and the Cancer Research Campaign (Photograph: Mark Pepper).

Director of Mensa sentenced over fight

By David Sapsted

A director of Mensa, the society for members with a particularly high intelligence quotient, received a suspended four-month prison sentence yesterday for losing his head at a party and punching a student.

Mr David Griffiths, aged 27, and with an IQ rated above the Mensa maximum of 161, got involved in an argument over someone else's girlfriend at a Christmas party at London University's Birkbeck College, Southwark Crown Court was told.

Griffiths pleaded guilty to causing actual bodily harm to Mr Paul Grey, aged 24, a fellow student on an evening degree course in philosophy.

Griffiths said that he had been talking to Miss Hetty Baynes, an actress, when Mr Grey had started annoying him. "I was sure it was because he thought I was chatting up his girl", he said. Mr Grey even went so far as to kick him, he said. Griffiths later followed Mr Grey outside and hit him in return "as a matter of honour".

Judge Gerald Butler, QC, sentenced Griffiths to four months' imprisonment, suspended for two years. He also ordered him to pay £300 compensation to Mr Grey and £100 costs.

Charity criticized for teaching claim

By Sarah Thompson, Education Reporter

The Spastics Society has been strongly criticized for claiming to give children in its residential schools "conductive education", an approach to teaching severely handicapped people that was developed in Hungary.

Mr Chas McGuffey, chairman of Rapid Action for Conductive Education, a charity based in Coventry, West Midlands, said yesterday that the teaching offered in Spastics Society establishments such as Rutland Manor, Nottinghamshire, was not true conductive education.

He added: "We are utterly perplexed by the Spastics Society's claims."

Rapid Action, a pressure group, has been taking British children to the Hungarian institute, saying that the Spastics Society is misleading those who might give money for the cause.

Another group, the Foundation for Conductive Education, which has set up a centre in Birmingham with help from the Peto Institute, Budapest, where the method was pioneered, also criticized the Spastics Society at the weekend.

Mr Andrew Sutton, the foundation's director, said: "A lot of people would say that the Spastics Society has been too slow in developing conductive education and that they have yet to demonstrate that they have a successful system".

Conductive education is a way of helping children and adults with severe handicaps such as cerebral palsy to move their limbs on their own and to lead as near a normal life as possible.

It requires long training and many staff and according to observers of the method, at the Peto Institute, it achieves results such as enabling handicapped children to be confident, that more orthodox therapy might not.

The dispute between the charities began when the Spastics Society announced last year that it was raising a total of £500,000 to build up its own version of conductive education for younger severely handicapped children.

It said that it would develop in-service training for staff in the methods pioneered at the Peto Institute.

Most of the money is to be raised with the help of the Stars' Organization for Spastics.

Rapid Action says that the Spastics Society's methods are not true conductive education because no "conductors" (multidisciplinary overseers) are used; the staff have not received the four-year training given by the Peto Institute; and the Spastics Society does not set out to achieve the same aims as conductive education.

In a statement released on Friday the Spastics Society pledged to "develop and monitor conductive education" in five of its establishments.

It added, however: "The society accepts that conductive education as practised in our schools is adapted to our circumstances. We neither train nor employ conductors as trained in Budapest".

The society said yesterday: "We never said it was pure conductive education. It is the nearest thing possible in this country. We have not misled anyone."

Theatre trust may win Lyceum from Moonies

By Ruth Gledhill

The Lyceum Theatre in Covent Garden in London looks more likely to be sold to the Theatres Trust than be restored with money connected to the Rev Sun Myung Moon's Unification Church.

The trust, which safeguards historic theatres, has applied to the London Residuary Body to buy the freehold of the 153-year-old building.

The bid is favoured by the LRB, which is waiting for the High Court to decide whether the sitting tenant, Mecca Leisure, is entitled to extend its expired lease by 14 years.

The Lyceum came under the spotlight with reports that the Royal Opera House, in need of premises while its Covent Garden home is closed for rebuilding in the early 1990s, could be planning to move to the theatre.

Mr Stephen Hetherington heads a consortium which is hoping to buy and refurbish the theatre with £12 million linked to the Unification Church.

He wants to house companies such as the London Festival Ballet and possibly the Royal Opera at the Lyceum.

The money, from the Washington Times Corporation, is held by the European Cultural Endowment Funda trust in the Netherlands.

The Washington Times Corporation is a wholly owned subsidiary of News World Communications whose president, Dr Bo Hi Pak, is a senior member of the Unification Church.

Dr Ronald Godwin, senior vice-president of the corporation and a Baptist, said: "The money comes from the two companies, not from the Unification Church".

The London Residuary Body said: "It is not that we object to money connected with the Moonies. We want to pass the freehold over to the Theatres Trust".

The situation has been further complicated by Westminster City Council, which may also offer to buy the Lyceum. The council said: "We are negotiating with the owners". The final word might well come from Mecca, which is exerting its rights as sitting tenant.

Mr Ian Baker, properties director for Mecca Leisure which hopes to restore the Lyceum and convert it into an entertainment centre, said: "We occupy the building. We have security of tenure. As far as we are concerned we are the sitting tenants and we are not going to let it go to Mr Hetherington".

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WORLD SUMMARY

Minister quizzed in spy scandal

Rome — Italian prosecutors are questioning key figures in a new spy scandal, including Signor Oscar Scalfaro, until last month a competent Christian Democrat Interior Minister with a rosy future (Roger Boyes writes). He was pushed out of the Cabinet to make way for the ageing former Prime Minister, Signor Amintore Fanfani, who had to be given an top job by the new Prime Minister, Signor Giovanni Goria.

Signor Scalfaro declared in a newspaper interview that during his tenure as Interior Minister "somebody from outside" had asked for secret service information. This infers that a politician — perhaps from his own party — had asked for access to secret service files.

The Italian secret service, implicated in the P2 Freemasonry scandals, has kept about 33,000 personal dossiers for decades and is said to have used them against political opponents. The files were supposed to have been destroyed in 1974, but nobody knows if this was done.

Move on refugees

Hong Kong (Reuters) — China is considering proposals to speed up the repatriation of Vietnamese refugees who have flooded into Hong Kong in the past six weeks, a Chinese official said yesterday.

Mr Ji Shaoxiang, a department head at the New China News Agency, which also serves as Peking's *de facto* embassy here, said that China would take back all Vietnamese refugees who previously settled in its southern provinces.

He said Chinese authorities were studying measures to help Hong Kong stem the flow, including cutting some red tape to allow early repatriation of refugees.

Four more boats with nearly 450 refugees on board arrived yesterday.

Iranians will stay

Hamburg (Reuters) — Six Iranian consular officials expelled from West Berlin are to stay in Hamburg until they have instructions from Tehran, an Iranian consulate official said yesterday.

They were expelled from West Berlin by the United States, France and Britain, the Second World War powers responsible for security in the city. The Allies also barred an unspecified number of Iranian diplomats based in East Berlin. The expulsion orders did not make any specific allegations against the Iranians but security sources said they feared terrorist bomb attacks.

Bonn says that the six men can stay in West Germany only if they work at a consulate; otherwise their visas would become invalid.

Bombings 'will go on'

Athens — An elusive urban guerrilla group, "17 November", has claimed responsibility for the bomb attack on Monday which slightly injured a US Air Force crew of nine and the Greek bus driver taking them to a seaside hotel near Athens airport (Mario Modiano writes).

The group recalled the bombing of another busload of US servicemen last April, and vowed to continue these attacks until all US bases in Greece were closed down. The organization condemned the Greek Government for negotiating a new bases agreement with the Americans.

Haiti hit by strike

Port-au-Prince (Reuters) — Public transport workers led a strike that paralysed the Haitian capital yesterday in a protest against the military-led government. Most shops, businesses, banks and restaurants were closed, but some markets and street vendors, stayed open.

Armed troops patrolled the streets of the capital, but there were no reports of violence. Radio stations said the strike also affected many other towns around the country.

Motorway tax fury

Bonn — West Germany may retaliate against a Belgian decision to introduce motorway tolls, effectively for foreigners only (Our Correspondent writes).

The Belgian Cabinet decided on Monday that, from January, vehicles on the country's motorways will have to display stickers proving that the annual toll of 500 Belgian francs (about £8) for cars and 1,000 francs for heavy vehicles has been paid. Belgian drivers will receive their stickers free.

Leg makes a new arm

Peking (Reuters) — Surgeons used part of a leg which a girl lost in a train accident to give her a new forearm, the *China Daily* newspaper said yesterday. Meng Xin, aged 11, had her left arm and leg severed in the accident.

Surgeons at the Central Hospital at Shenyang, capital of the north-eastern province of Liaoning, made a new forearm out of her severed leg and attached her hand to it. Skin on the transplanted "forearm" returned to normal and her fingers recovered their sense of touch, the newspaper said.

Libyan air strike after Chad gain

From Susan MacDonald Paris

The Chad Government said yesterday that Libyan aircraft were bombing the air base at Wadi Doum, 200 miles north of the town of Aouzou, in addition to early reports that the oasis of Faya Largeau was being bombed.

The Libyan air attacks are in retaliation for the capture last Saturday of the small town of Aouzou within the disputed northern Aouzou Strip which both Chad and Libya claim is theirs.

Chad government figures for Saturday's Aouzou battle are given as 650 Libyan soldiers killed and 147 taken prisoner. No Chad casualty figures were given.

Faya Largeau and Wadi Doum were captured by Chad troops from Libyan occupying forces last March during bloody battles which dealt a humiliating defeat to Libya.

The Libyan chargé d'affaires in Paris, Mr Hamed el Houderi, declared on French television that Libya would most certainly counter-attack against Chad's aggression.

The State Department in Washington has announced its support for Chad's claims on the Aouzou Strip. Britain and France also support Chad's claims — although France would like to see a diplomatic rather than military solution.

Fearful of an escalation to the conflict, various African heads of state are again embarking on mediation efforts. The Organization of African Unity chairman, President Kaunda of Zambia, has dispatched President Sankara of Burkina Faso to Tripoli for talks with Colonel Gaddafi.

Suspicious ruin Zapu agreement

From Jan Raath Harare

Mr Robert Mugabe, the Prime Minister of Zimbabwe, has withdrawn from what sources said was an "imminent" agreement to unite his ruling Zanu (PF) party with the opposition Zapu party of Mr Joshua Nkomo.

Since late June, at the instigation of President Robert Mugabe, there have been secretive contacts, through an intermediary, between Mr Mugabe and the burly leader of Zimbabwe's Ndebele-speaking people in the western province of Matabeleland. They culminated in three face-to-face meetings during the past week.

Sources said that on Monday the two men were expected to have signed an agreement of understanding that would have united the parties and would have led to the end of 24 years of bitterness that has frequently spilled over into urban violence and created a guerrilla war — now in its fifth year — in the west of the country.

However, the sources said, Monday's meeting produced no progress, and the unity talks — the last 19-month negotiating period — having been called off by Mr Mugabe in mid-April — were now "back to square one".

The sources described the Zanu (PF) delegation as being "suspicious" of Zapu's conciliatory attempts. They were afraid that the conciliation was really aimed at taking over the leadership of the Government.

"It's obvious they don't regard the time as being ripe", said one source. "But it will come up again."

Moscow attempt to hasten treaty on chemical weapons

From Alan McGregor, Geneva

The Soviet Union yesterday spelt out its conditions for acceptance of a "mandatory challenge inspection without refusal" for enforcing a ban on chemical weapons, announced here last week by its Foreign Minister, Mr Eduard Shevardnadze.

The Soviet delegate, Mr Yuri Nazarkin, told the United Nations disarmament conference that progress in a whole set of other directions depended on the earliest solution of the inspection issue. He said that Moscow aimed to accelerate negotiations for a convention prohibiting chemical weapons.

Mr Nazarkin said international inspectors should arrive at a site, where the production, storage or use of chemical weapons was suspected, not more than 48 hours after an inspection was requested.

He said the new Soviet initiative went further than the British compromise proposal on inspection put forward a year ago.

The Soviet Union's new attitude is a significant shift and is now similar to the US position as set out in the draft treaty submitted to the conference here by Vice-President George Bush in April, 1984.

Mr Nazarkin added that his country was not exactly

throwing wide the doors to inspection in general. The Russians could not disregard the potential for possible disclosure of sensitive data having nothing to do with chemical weapons.

Accordingly, maximum use should be made of the British compromise proposal on challenge inspection — namely, the possibility of the challenged

Moscow — The Soviet Union yesterday repeated its view that there could be no global "double zero" agreement unless the United States scrapped its 72 warheads on West Germany's Pershing 1A missiles (Mary Dejevsky writes). Mr Viktor Karpov, the head of the Soviet Foreign Ministry's Arms Control Directorate, told journalists the warheads were the principal obstacle to an agreement because they were a potential threat to the Soviet Union's allies in Eastern Europe.

This could take the form of visual observation from outside, partial access to a plant or analysis of chemical samples, as well as remote-control verification by satellites. However, it would be up to the country that had re-

quested a challenge inspection to decide whether it was sufficiently satisfied that on-site inspection could be dispensed with.

He added: "Such measures should be elaborated within the framework of, and not contrary to, the principle of mandatory inspections. Such measures must not weaken this principle or make any exceptions to it."

Were a state to suffer damage as a result of on-site inspection being abused, it should have the right under the Chemical Weapons Convention to seek financial compensation.

Mr Nazarkin also announced his country's acceptance of a US invitation for conference delegates to visit the chemical weapons destruction installation at Tooele, Utah. And he invited two delegates from each country, to visit the Russian military facility at Shikhan to see standard items of chemical munitions and observe the technology of destroying chemical weapons at a mobile installation.

There would be a later invitation to a new destruction plant being built at Chapayevsk. Such visits would increase mutual confidence, he said.

Warning on invasion threat

From Our Correspondent, Bonn

The West German Chief of Military Staff, Admiral Dieter Wellerhoff, expressed concern yesterday that public awareness of the invasion threat presented by the Soviet Union was declining.

In an interview with the newspaper, *Die Welt*, Admiral Wellerhoff said that the policies of Mr Mikhail Gorbachev, the Soviet leader, "have not yet had a perceptible impact on the build-up of Soviet and Warsaw Pact military potential."

Admiral Wellerhoff, the first Bundeswehr chief of staff without Second World War

experience, said there was a "real, existing threat" to the West from the Warsaw Pact's superior conventional military potential. He was worried that West German defence spending might not be high enough to modernize its conventional weapons.

The Minister of Finance, Herr Gerhard Stoltenberg, last month cut the Defence Ministry's budget requests for 1988 by DM 1.8 billion (about £600 million) to DM 51.6 billion, a nominal rise of 1.5 per cent over this year.

Herr Stoltenberg's finance plan foresees increases of 1.1

per cent for 1989-90 and 1.3 per cent in 1991, despite the agreement by Nato defence ministers in May for real annual increases of 3 per cent.

Defence Ministry sources predict cuts in procurement and research and development. As development costs for the European Fighter Aircraft and the Franco-German battle helicopter will rise next year, deep cuts will have to be made in other projects.

Admiral Wellerhoff said he was concerned as to whether West Germany could fulfil its defence tasks within Nato.

Italian prison reform Terrorist killers go on summer holiday

From Roger Boyes, Rome

They are not turning pink and brown with the masses on the Mediterranean beaches, but Italy's most famous terrorist couple, jailed for the kidnapping of Aldo Moro and the murder of his bodyguard, still look relaxed and happy as they take their summer holiday from a maximum-security prison.

Relatives of the Red Brigades couple, Valerio Morucci, aged 38, and Adriana Faranda, aged 37, say the break is "well-earned".

A photograph of the couple, sandwiched in a gossip magazine between holiday snapshots of Christina Onassis and Joan Collins, has set Italians wondering about their prison system. Under a new penal reform, some convicts are entitled to summer breaks.

Some former terrorists, who have been studying agriculture in prison, are allowed to cultivate fields near Naples, returning to their cells at night under their own steam. A portion of the money they earn goes to international charity organizations.

Others, like Morucci and Faranda, can take holiday leave without having to work in the fields. Arrested in 1979, they are serving 30 years for the kidnapping of the Italian Prime Minister, Signor Aldo Moro, who was later murdered and dumped in a Rome street. Morucci looks older and now wears glasses, but his girl friend still wears her hair long.

and does not seem to have been aged by eight years in prison.

For Mafia convicts, prison seems to mean business as usual. An investigation has been opened into the workings of the main prison at Reggio di Calabria, on the toe of the boot-like Italian peninsula. After the appointment of a young governor two years ago, the imprisoned Mafia chiefs found that life could be extremely comfortable.

The prison hospital was converted into a kind of social club where the convicts could play cards, drink smuggled whisky, and on saints' days sip champagne. The governor allowed the wealthier Mafia bosses regular access to the female division of the jail. At least one of the guards rented special dustbins for £5 a delivery to dozens of inmates. The bins held beef and lamb for banquets. Most of the guards were granted credit in some of the best shops in return for giving privileges to Mafia.

A new prison governor has now been installed and has already had dynamite thrown into his home. The most powerful convicts continue to run their operations from their cells, giving detailed instructions to relatives, recruiting new gang members among the inmates, and operating drug distribution networks.

Mine that blew a hole in safety assumptions

From Robert Fisk, in the Gulf of Oman

There was no doubting the effect of the latest Gulf War mines. The armada of 24 supertankers off Fujairah yesterday had steamed away from the beaches where a coast-guard had found another floating mine during the morning. The waters over the deck rails were already streaked yellow and brown by the thousands of tons of Iranian oil that had poured from the side of the Texaco Caribbean after it was struck by the first mine on Monday evening.

The damaged 274,347-tonne supertanker had limped out to sea like an unwelcome vagrant during the night, leaving the seepage of her wounds behind her. Travelling through these now hazardous waters in a small crew boat yesterday, the sea simply became murkier the further one travelled from the shore.

At 10 miles, the oil lay in

long streaks like pond weed beneath the surface; at 20 miles it had formed a thin carpet of brown mud over parts of the Gulf of Oman. At 25 miles, there was the Texaco Caribbean, listing to starboard, her crew leaning into the sea, a hole in the 120-degree heat, a hole near her bow sloshing with sea water and big enough to drive a small car through.

It was this single explosion, this one drifting mine, that blew apart not just the number two tank in the Texaco Caribbean's port side, but the safe assumptions of Western navies and the great tanker companies, who had thought — as institutions do about wars — that this conflict had its limits. Surely, they had thought, no mines would ever be laid outside the Gulf. But now a ship is safe, no tanker in Fujairah's friendly an-

chorage, no warship or *dhows*, fishing-boat or merchantman, can sail anywhere between the Emirates and Kuwait without fear of mines.

Frigates of the British Armada patrol regularly refuel in these waters; which is why they, too, will now have minesweepers to protect them and their oil tanker charges. The Russians have until now actually stationed their off-duty minesweepers here; yesterday

they were gone, together with perhaps 20 of the tankers that had been anchored here on Monday morning.

The Americans, of course, will want to get their hands on the mines that are now being found off Fujairah, objects which they believe were laid by the Iranians but which the Iranians claim were placed there "by the American Navy or its agents". The Texaco Caribbean was, after all,

carrying Iranian crude oil from Latakia. The coastguard in Fujairah, which has a patrol boat standing by 100 yards from the latest, unexploded mine, said it found only one such device yesterday. Some reports suggested three had been discovered.

The mine is thought to be very old, and the Americans want to see if it is a 1908 Russian mine, upgraded in 1938 and then possibly to Iran which is typical of several recently found in the upper waters of the Gulf itself. But how will minesweepers be able to clear not just a sea lane but this massive anchorage, indeed a vast area of sea, down here in the Gulf of Oman?

Our own small boat yesterday made a wide detour round an area of waterway which the Emirates' authorities thought might have been mined. Even a drifting oil drum — bobbing nonchalantly

up and down in the waves not far from a Norwegian tanker — was yesterday sufficient to have our skipper set off to investigate.

The huge hole torn into the hull of the Texaco Caribbean — below the water-line, but now exposed by the vessel's list — would have been enough to damage or even sink an American destroyer or a British frigate.

A Greek supertanker gingerly made her way alongside the crippled ship last night to take on board what remained of her cargo of 261,000 tonnes of crude oil. The Texaco Caribbean's master told us over the radio that he did not think his ship was shedding more oil, but that he had no idea where he would be sent for repairs.

Indeed, the dry docks of the Gulf are the only companies likely to benefit from this latest escalation in the war.

The pit crisis in South Africa

Dispute hedged about by the law

From Ray Kennedy Johannesburg



A worker from Lesotho leaving the Kinross gold mine south-east of Johannesburg, after his union urged its striking members to leave mine hostels and return home.

Miner who defied strike murdered

From Our Own Correspondent, Johannesburg

A black coal miner has been found murdered in his hostel bed after defying the strike called by the National Union of Mineworkers, it was reported last night.

His death is the first reported in the strike at 44 gold and coal mines launched by the NUM on Sunday over a 30 per cent pay rise claim.

The Afrikaner mining company Gencor said that the man, aged 36, had continued to work at the Binkpan colliery in Witbank, eastern Transvaal, owned by its subsidiary, Trans-Natal Coal Corporation.

"He was one of a small number of production workers who continued working despite the strike by almost the total workforce," the statement said. "The man, who had been employed by the mine since 1978, was apparently murdered."

There was no immediate comment from the NUM, which claims that 340,000 men have stopped work, against the employers' figures of 220,000 and 230,000.

The union was trying to spread the strike yesterday. A strike ballot was held at the crucial Rand Refinery at Germiston, east of Johannesburg, where gold from the mines is purified before being cast into ingots for the world bullion market.

Both the union and mine owners accused each other yesterday of inciting violence. The union claimed that 14 of

its members had been injured in clashes with mine security officials at two mines near Secunda, in the eastern Transvaal.

Mr Marcel Golding, assistant general secretary of the NUM, said nine men were hurt at Kinross gold mine and five at Bracken Mine, both of which are owned by Gencor.

About 30,000 of Gencor's 70,000 black workers are on strike, the company said. It said the clashes at Kinross came when strikers attacked men returning to their hostels after work.

At Carltonville, on the west Rand, the union's offices were surrounded by police and officials refused access. Mr Cyril Ramaphosa, the NUM general secretary, claimed. Other union offices at Klerksdorp and Westonaria had been raided, he said.

The giant Anglo American Corporation, which has 13 of its mines hit by the strike, accused NUM officials of "interfering with access to hostels, preventing workers from exercising their choice to work, and obstructing deliveries and food supplies."

At strike-bound Anglo American collieries in the Witbank area of the eastern Transvaal, white miners were said yesterday to be earning a bonus of £25 a shift to maintain production. The wife of a miner said that her husband expected to earn an extra £500, if the strike lasted a month.

Seamen want Gulf war zone widened

By Rodney Cowton, Transport Correspondent

British trade unions representing seamen and officers on ships in the Gulf area have called for the war zone to be extended because of the discovery of mines in the Gulf of Oman, which is outside the existing zone.

And Mr Christopher Rome, the chairman of the Lloyd's Underwriters' Association, said war risk insurance premiums would almost certainly rise after the damage to the

tanker Texaco Caribbean at Fujairah on Monday, and the reported sighting of other mines in the area.

The National Union of Seamen and the National Union of Marine, Aviation and Shipping Transport Officers asked the National Maritime Board in London to extend the zone east so that it covers the whole of the Strait of Hormuz on a line about 35

miles from the coasts of Oman and the United Arab Emirates. It is understood that it would include both of the main anchorages in the area at Fujairah and Khor Fakkan.

A decision was expected this morning. If the board does agree, officers and crew would have the right to refuse to go into the extended zone, and if they agreed to go would be entitled to double pay.

Land rush

America goes on

Gandhi tack

Afghans flee to Soviet at

Land rush on road to El Dorado threatens Brazil's rain forest

From Mac Margolis, Extrema, Brazil

Just a year ago, this was little more than a wide place in a dirt road in the Amazon. A couple of hundred wooden buildings formed a sorry huddle before an infinity of jungle. Passers-by stopped here to shake off the thick red dust, tank up with petrol and perhaps swill a shot of cane rum before pushing on to some still remoter destination.

Today Extrema is the Amazon's newest boom town. Local officials say five new settlers arrive each day, clambering off diesel buses and, in a matter of days, raising up yet another clutch of clapboard dwellings.

In just 15 months, Extrema's 200 buildings have become 2,000, including a bank, a hospital, a school house, a police station and a strip of nightclubs. It is the "powder-blue" town of Aquarius disco club.

Ask people why all the bustle and industry, and the answer comes back in a hurry: "a estrada", the road. The road is BR-364, the newest and best Amazon highway, slicing 1,300 miles through three states, from the central scrublands of Mato Grosso deep into the high forest of Rondonia and Acre.

In 1984, when the first thousand miles of surfacing was completed, the two lanes of blacktop were hailed as an

important assault in Brasilia's long campaign to occupy the Amazon borderlands and jolt the scattered rain forest communities out of their timeless torpor.

But for all the progress, the \$1.2 billion (£764 million) highway, heavily financed by the World Bank and the Inter-American Development Bank, has also been a fast lane to controversy.

Barrelling along the tarmac have come lumber companies, gold miners, cattle ranchers and a rush of land-hungry colonos, or peasant settlers.

The stampede has threatened Rondonia's fragile forest ecology, overrun lands of native Amerindians and put Brazil on collision course with conservationists and international creditors. It has also stirred serious doubts as to whether this growing, resource-hungry nation can develop the world's largest rain forest without destroying it.

Now, the highway — and the fierce polemics that shoulder it — is pushing farther west to towns like Extrema, and beyond. With \$58.5 million from the Development Bank, construction crews are now paving the last stretch of BR-364 to Rio Branco, capital of Acre, a state as big as Greece, bordering Bolivia and Peru. The settlers have decided not to wait for the tarmac.



In 1985, Senhor Liberato Camera brought his wife, five sons and four daughters to Extrema, 3,000 miles from his home in the pampas of Rio Grande do Sul. "Back there, no one can afford to buy land any more," he said. After waiting five years in vain for a lot in neighbouring Rondonia, he managed to buy 250 acres in Extrema.

"The only place for poor people is here." That is exactly what frightens Acre officials and the conservationists alike. "The colonos are moving on to Acre," said Senhor Carlos Alberto Franca, Rondonia officer for the government settlement agency, Incra. "And there is no government, no public institution, and no land reform programme that can fix this."

Outside Brazil, a complex alliance has

formed between militant ecologists, the US Treasury Department and Senators Daniel Inouye and Robert Kasian. They are pressuring the Development Bank to suspend loan payouts until Brazil can guarantee environmental protection.

On June 25 Mr James Conrow, of the US Treasury Department, fired off a memo to the American representative of the Development Bank, arguing that "if the borrower is not in compliance with the project plan by the end of March, 1988, the loan should be cancelled."

"If we knew at the beginning what we know now," one senior official at the Washington-based Development Bank wearily confessed, "the bank would never have funded the road."

The BR-364 started life as a dirt road scratched out of the forest in the 1960s by the Army along an abandoned telegraph line. It traversed three sparsely populated states in a swathe of north-west Brazil that is the size of Germany, Spain and France combined.

In 1980 Brasilia, with the loans from the World Bank and the Development Bank, began pouring blacktop. The generals dreamed the all-weather highway would be "the backbone to the conquest of the frontier", and eventually even a gateway to the Pacific.

To the World Bank, BR-364 was the centrepiece of one of its biggest loan

projects, the North-West Pole, a \$430 million aid programme to help Brazil develop its vast frontiers.

"It wasn't for the highway, there would be no Rondonia," said Senhor Jeronimo Santana, Governor of Brazil's youngest state. Until the road was improved, Acre's capital was virtually unreachable by land for the six-month rainy season.

But with the road came the poor colonos by the legion. In 1978, 12,000 newcomers migrated to Rondonia. Now, that many come every month in what may be the most intensive human migration since the settlement of the American West. They are the detritus of lopsided development, expelled from the slums of Brazil's clogged megacities, or the mechanized farms in the south, or the parched serido of the starving North-East, searching for a bit of El Dorado.

All of Rondonia's good lands have already been doled out and spontaneous settlements now erupt on any patch of available earth. Some ecologists and local planners say that as much as 25 per cent of Rondonia's forests have been destroyed. Conflicts between squatters and landholders are rife, and often bloody. The World Bank concluded in a report on July 7 that the "health and safety" of virtually all the 30,000 Indians, in 69 different areas in the

region, "was seriously endangered".

To avoid a reprise of Rondonia, the Development Bank linked its Acre loan to a rigorous \$10 million plan to protect the environment and indigenous groups.

However, critics say a major road-block to conservation is the Brazilian military, which has reportedly refused to set aside land for Indians anywhere within a 90-mile "national security" cordon along Brazil's northern borders, including all of Acre.

The indigenous missionary council, linked to the Roman Catholic Church, also charges that the military is reluctant to grant a few thousand Amerindians title to such vast stretches of Amazon real estate, rich with minerals like gold, tin and bauxite.

For all the problems, no one — not even the ecologists or the Amazon Indians — wants the paving scrapped. In Acre, especially, state officials await the tarmac as they would a lifeline. Yet, in the face of such violations, ecologists and frustrated state and federal officials have argued that lenders should at least draw a harder line. Amid the daunting obstacles and the hail of protests, the road itself appears to be moving ahead swiftly. Earlier this month, work crews in big green bulldozers moved out west of Porto Velho, preparing to pour tarmac over the final stretch of Brazil's problem highway.

Central American peace plan

American aid for Contras goes on the back burner

From Christopher Thomas, Washington

The peace proposal signed by five Central American Presidents, for all its limited prospects of success, has virtually killed any prospect of early renewal of American military aid to the Nicaraguan Contras.

The White House has conceded that its own peace proposals are now effectively dead and that its request to Congress for new aid to the rebels has been put on the back burner. "Everyone is waiting to see what happens next," a senior Administration official said.

This latest blow to the fortunes of the beleaguered rebels has cast further doubt on their ability to survive as a viable fighting force. The focus of debate in the Democratic Party, which controls both houses of Congress and is therefore in a powerful position to influence policy, is now firmly on the question of how the US should help the Contras give up the fight and resettle their men.

White House officials insist that President Reagan may yet submit a request for additional aid to the rebels during the 90-day period set for implementation of the new peace plan. President Reagan, who has a strong emotional commitment to the Contras,

has given faint praise to the plan, and it is clear the Administration privately has little time for it.

Congress would certainly reject military assistance while the peace process is going on, believing that the US should not be perceived as undercutting it. Granting non-military aid is possible in the coming months, but with the purpose merely of keeping the rebels alive while the peace effort runs its course.

Beyond that, Democratic attention is focused on how to end US support for a peasant army that was created covertly by the Reagan Administration

about six years ago, and which has demonstrably failed in its primary military objectives.

Current US aid to the Contras expires on September 30. Despite a surge of military activity earlier in the year, the fighters are now bogged down by an especially harsh rainy season, and by all accounts are dispirited and demoralized.

Congressional Democrats attach immense importance to the amnesty proposals in the latest peace agreement, which was signed in Guatemala on Friday, but prospects for reconciliation, at least in this generation, appear slight. The Contras say they have suffered

more than 5,000 dead since 1980 and that more than 500 fighters have lost limbs. The Sandinistas say they have suffered similar casualties.

The Democratic Party is studying the possibility of resettling the Contras in Honduras and Costa Rica, since it seems likely that most would choose not to return to Nicaragua, even under an amnesty.

Neither Congress nor the Administration appears willing to allow the rebels to settle in the US, fearing that such a move would create chaos in Miami — where Cuban exiles from the abortive Bay of Pigs invasion 26 years ago are still a haunting presence — and other cities.

The Contras total perhaps 15,000 men, most of them largely uneducated. With family members, the numbers seeking a home might be close to 100,000. The Contras say 500,000 Nicaraguans, about 20 per cent of the population, live in exile.

Senor Bosco Matamoros, the Contra military spokesman in Washington, said that neither the fighters nor Nicaraguan exiles would return home "without a climate of political good will that will allow a democratic political process".

The rebel leadership

The six members of the Directorate of the Nicaraguan Resistance, the governing body of the Contras, are: Pedro Joaquín Chamorro, a member of Nicaragua's oldest newspaper family, and former editor of *La Prensa*, forced to close because of its opposition to Sandinista policies; Alfonso Robelo, a moderate who supported the Sandinista revolution and served on the first junta, but resigned only a year later; Adolfo Calero, a graduate of Notre Dame University, a

political hardliner who believes the Sandinistas must be overthrown militarily. He heads the Contras' main military force, the Nicaraguan Democratic Force (FDN); Aristides Sánchez, former military logistics chief of the FDN and close ally of Calero; Alfredo Cesar, a former Sandinista Central Bank director, a graduate of the University of Texas and also of Stanford University; Azucena Ferrey, a leader of the Christian Democrats and the only woman member.

Indian drought crisis

From Gavin Bell, Delhi

Gandhi tackles the spectre of famine

Mr Rajiv Gandhi, the Indian Prime Minister, has formed a Cabinet committee to co-ordinate emergency relief as India faces widespread famine and economic disruption because of its worst drought for a century.

Mr Gandhi said that the situation was grave after the failure of monsoon rains in eight states. The relief committee is working closely with the Cabinet expenditure committee, already straining to fulfil India's seventh development plan.

The erratic South Asian monsoon has largely bypassed a large swathe of northern India, including the fertile states of Haryana and Punjab, traditionally the "granaries" of India. Severe crop damage and dwindling supplies of drinking water are also reported in Himachal Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra.

Mr Rao Birendra Singh, the former Agriculture Minister, said in Parliament this week that existing buffer stocks of 23 million tonnes of food grains were inadequate to cope with the crisis, and appealed for at least £500 million in government grants for emergency relief.

"The picture is quite terrifying and time is slipping away fast. Famine conditions have already set in," he said.

He called for a massive relief programme, with workers being paid in subsidized food grains, and for a re-

mission of short-term crop loans in the affected areas.

A sharp fall in hydro-electric power generation — by 1 billion units in April-July against the same period last year — has started to affect industrial production. Opposition MPs say India may have to import diesel fuel, edible oils and cotton, causing a further drain on foreign exchange reserves. There is no reliable estimate of those affected by crop failure and the loss of cattle, but it is said to run into several million.

The greatest hardship is in the desert regions of Rajasthan, now in the grip of famine for the fourth successive year. Desperate cattle breeders from the Marwar region have migrated to other parts of the state at their peril — three of them were killed recently by villagers fighting to preserve their remaining vegetation.

Police supported by local militia were called out to drive thousands of hungry cattle from the state's Ranthambhor national park. The level of Rampur Lake, the venue of rowing events in the 1982 Asian Games, has fallen from 61 ft to 27 ft, of which 16 ft is silt. As a consequence, the water supplies to local communities have dwindled sixfold.

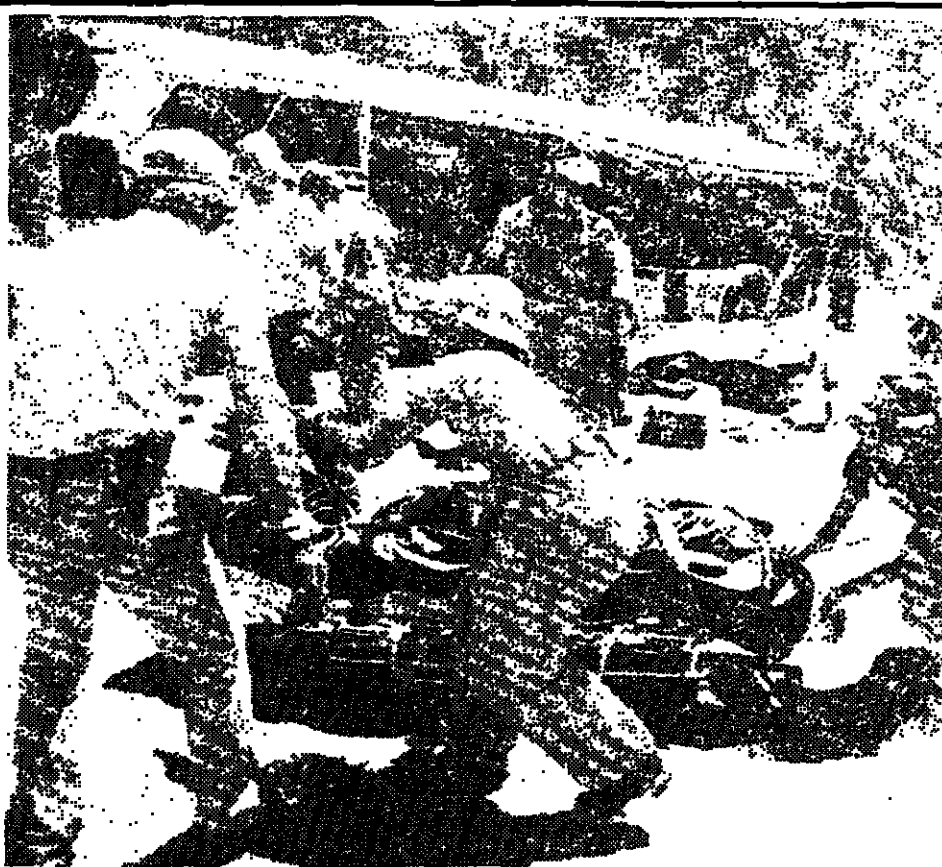
A Delhi newspaper said yesterday that government crisis measures were unlikely to counter the long-term impact on the economy: "If it is development resources

that get diverted, the overall impact is bound to be all the more severe... the drought could spell disaster," it said.

By a grim irony, at least 120 people and thousands of cattle have died in flash floods in the north-eastern states of Assam, West Bengal and Bihar. More than 300,000 people are sheltering in temporary refugee camps, as Indian Air Force planes drop relief supplies to hundreds of thousands more, marooned when rivers burst their banks and inundated low-lying areas. Road and railway bridges have been washed away, and at least 126,000 acres of cultivated land are under water in upper Assam alone.

The contrasting calamities have led to opposition charges that the Government was failing to manage the country's water resources. Mr Indrajit Gupta, a Communist MP, said that, even after 40 years of planned development, India was still at the mercy of the elements.

The monsoon failure is baffling Indian scientists, who are debating several theories, ranging from an atmospheric depression in the Bay of Bengal to melting snows in the Himalayas. They are also investigating an apparent relationship with increasing surface temperatures as far removed as the southern Pacific Ocean and Antarctica. The outlook appears bleak, as the prospects of further rain are diminishing.



Rescuers, above, removing the body of one of the tourists killed by a mountain boulder in Colorado and, below, highway workers examining the rock, which hit a bus.



Rock kills seven in tourist bus

Winter Park, Colorado (AP) — A boulder dislodged by road workers plunged down a mountain and into the side of a Rocky Mountain tourist bus, killing seven people and injuring 15 others.

Two of the dead were Australians. The others were all American citizens. Eight of the injured were admitted to hospital, four of them in a serious condition. Others were treated and released.

"It's a terrible accident," the state's Governor, Mr Roy Romer, told reporters. "Quite frankly, it's our responsibility to make it right."

The state will pay medical costs for the injured, help bring family members to Colorado and provide counselling. The Governor added: "I am personally accepting responsibility for the state."

Burmese leader admits his mistakes

Bangkok (Reuters) — U Nu Win, the Burmese leader, has publicly owned up to mistakes by his Government for the first time in his 25-year rule. Western diplomats said.

"The entire truth should be submitted without any attempt to hide the facts," the 75-year-old leader told a meeting of senior officials and politicians in Rangoon. He ordered them to stop covering up shortcomings and to review accurately failures in their work since 1974, and hinted that changes might be made to the country's 13-year-old Constitution.

Burma has slumped to the depths of poverty since U Nu Win's 1962 coup. Political unrest provoked by food shortages in the early 1970s led to the last round of changes in the Constitution.

Western diplomats in Bangkok were surprised by U Nu Win's admission of failures in the mix of Marxist economics, Buddhism and military rule dubbed the "Burmese road to Socialism".

"Ne Win never admits anything is wrong," said one.

Vance ill

New York (Reuters) — The former US Secretary of State, Mr Cyrus Vance, is undergoing medical tests after he had complained of cardiac discomfort.

Climber dies

Wellington (Reuters) — The body of Harry Ayres, aged 74, one of New Zealand's most famous mountaineers, who taught Sir Edmund Hillary to climb, has been found almost a month after he disappeared from his Christchurch home.

Doctors back

Colombo (Reuters) — Two thousand doctors employed in state hospitals across Sri Lanka ended a 27-day strike over examination policies.

Birth triumph

Nantes (AFP) — A 29-year-old woman who had a heart transplant two years ago has given birth to a 5lb 6oz girl. She is the first heart transplant patient to give birth in Europe.

Miners out

Belgrade (Reuters) — About 450 coal miners have gone on strike for a 100 per cent pay rise, and Mr Mehmet Becic, general director of the Djurdjevik mine in central Yugoslavia, said they would be offered 40 per cent.

For Genghis

Hong Kong (Reuters) — China plans to build a mausoleum in Lanzhou, in the north-west, for Genghis Khan, the 13th-century Mongolian emperor.

Warning to Seoul strikers

Seoul (Reuters) — Spreading labour unrest hit South Korea's leading exporters yesterday as the military-backed Government threatened to intervene.

The country's three car makers, two leading shipbuilders and a leading electronic manufacturer were among more than 190 concerns disrupted by an explosion of labour disputes in key mining, manufacturing and transport industries.

Fifteen people were injured as car assembly-line workers fought with strike-breaking white-collar employees. Police reported intermittent clashes in the volatile east-central

mining area, where about 24,000 coal miners went on strike at 18 mines. Including the country's largest. Fifteen other mines in central and southern South Korea also closed.

The main fish market in the country's largest port, Pusan, closed when 600 fishermen demonstrating for more pay smashed market furniture.

The Labour Minister, Mr Lee Heon Ki, said the strikes had cost at least £110,000 million in lost production and exports in the past 15 days, and warned that the Government was losing patience.

"If the labour disputes

spread further, impeding the lives of the public and posing unacceptable damage to the economy, the Government will have no choice but to deal with them in accordance with law," he said.

Labour discord has exploded since July 1, when the Government accepted opposition demands for political reforms to end violent street protests.

Mr Lee's warning comes after appeals for moderation by both government and opposition leaders. Diplomats, dissidents and other observers fear that increasing turmoil could stifle nascent democratic reform.

Afghans flee to Kabul from Soviet attacks

Islamabad (Reuters) — Refugees have been streaming into Kabul to escape intensive bombardment by Soviet and Afghan Government forces near the city. Western diplomatic sources in Islamabad said yesterday.

Quoting reports from Kabul, they said rocketing, shelling and aerial bombing lit up the night sky to the north-west of the Afghan capital almost every evening last week.

Soviet and Afghan troops fighting Western-backed guerrillas moved into the Shomali region north of the city on August 7 after several days of bombardment, which the sources described as the most intensive seen this year. They estimated the number of refugees at more than 2,000.

The diplomatic sources said the refugees, on foot or on donkeys, caused traffic jams near a Soviet base at Khair Khana, on the outskirts of Kabul. Troop convoys were seen moving towards the north of the city. On August 8

many squadrons of helicopters took off from Kabul airport on low-level sorties to the combat zone, they said.

The Shomali region, a bastion of Islamic fundamentalism, is a fertile plain stretching north of Kabul. The bombardment was at its most heaviest against towns located between Shakadara and Istalaf on its western edge. The towns are in the foothills of mountains rising to 15,450 ft much used by the Mujahidin guerrillas as a base for attacks on Kabul.

The anti-rebel drive followed several days of fighting around the Salang road, the main artery linking Kabul to the Soviet border, which crosses Shomali. The diplomatic sources said traffic was interrupted for several days last week. They also reported heavy high-level bombing of Paghman, south of Shakadara, and in rocket range of the Khair Khana base, on August 4 after overnight Mujahidin attacks.

China woos Tibetans with language concession

From Robert Grievess, Lhasa

The legislature of China's Tibetan autonomous region late last month adopted new regulations making it mandatory for all government officials to learn Tibetan as the "major official language" by July 1, 1988.

On that date Tibetan will be listed as a required subject in primary schools and all other school subjects will be taught in the language. Tibetan will also be used in post offices, banks, shops, meeting houses and courts in the region, according to the regulations.

Students "of the majority Han Chinese nationality" will "continue to use Mandarin in classes", the regulations carefully note. But that proviso cannot hide the fact that, after 36 years of Chinese rule, during which traditional Tibetan culture was virtually destroyed, Peking is now trying to restore some semblance of Tibet's former "cultural characteristics".

During the Chinese "libera-

tion" of Tibet in 1950-1951, again during the abortive 1959 Tibetan uprising against Chinese rule, and finally during China's Cultural Revolution (1966-1976), Tibetan monasteries and temples were destroyed or otherwise destroyed and thousands of Tibetans were tortured or murdered. Today only 26 of the former 1,500 functioning monasteries and temples exist. But, to ease tensions between Tibetans and Chinese and attract the much-needed hard currency of foreign tourists to this economically depressed region, the Chinese since 1980 have allowed Tibetans to begin rebuilding their holy places.

Given the violence of their recent history, it is not surprising that Tibetans continue openly to loathe their Chinese masters. This is because Peking continues to send increasingly more Chinese into Tibet, in part by offering 10,000 yuan (about £2,000) as a bonus over three years, and because Mandarin was taught in all second-



The Dalai Lama: he will not return without power.

ary schools and used in all public offices.

The economic disparity between Tibet and the adjacent Sichuan province has exacerbated the bad feelings between the two nationalities. Because Peking has in the past two years abandoned its policy of developing the west (Tibet, Qinghai, Gansu, Shanxi and Xinjiang) in favour of devel-

oping the east (Shanghai, Jiangsu, Zhejiang, Guangdong, Fujian and Liaoning), the average annual per capita rural income gap between the west and east has widened from 72 yuan six years ago to 190 yuan today.

Another continuing source of tension between the two peoples is that the Chinese genuinely do not understand the Tibetans. Peking believes that it has brought much needed public works projects and hydro-electric plants to a backward nation and should be thanked for its trouble.

Many, if not most, Tibetans also want the region's economy and society to become more progressive. And the majority of Tibetan intellectuals agree with Peking that Tibet's former theocracy bled the country of resources while holding back development.

But the majority want the exiled Dalai Lama to return. In 1959 the god-king was forced to flee from the Norbulingka, his summer palace at Lhasa, just before

Chinese troops shelled it.

Today, at the age of 52, Mr Tenzin Gyiszo, the Dalai Lama, lives in Dharamsala in India and heads the Tibetan religious and political community in exile there. He is a progressive, dynamic leader who will not return to China unless he is guaranteed full powers of autonomy in Tibet. So far, Peking has proved unwilling to cede to him such sweeping authority.

But the visit to Tibet last month by the Panchen Lama, Tibetan Buddhism's most important religious leader after the Dalai Lama, may have provided the impetus for the new Tibetan-language regulations, according to sources in Lhasa.

After being received in Xigaze, Tibet's second holiest city, by thousands of cheering Tibetans, the Panchen Lama, who has lived in Peking since the 1950s, travelled to Lhasa, where he attended a meeting of the local Communist Party officials.

At that meeting he is re-

ported to have pounded the table and rebuked the officials, both Chinese and Tibetan, for the "low level of Tibetan language skills exhibited by Tibetan youth". The Panchen Lama also reportedly asked the Chinese officials why, after three decades of ruling Tibet, most of them had still not learnt Tibetan.

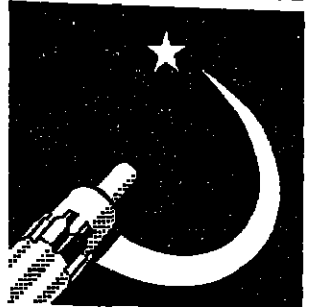
It is difficult for anyone in Lhasa or Peking to predict when or if Tibet will become an integrated part of China. During the recent visit to Tibet of Chancellor Helmut Kohl of West Germany, People's Liberation Army troops and armed border guards were stationed in front of Tibetan houses, as his motorcade passed into the city centre.

In such a climate of mistrust, progress will be hard to achieve. An elderly tour guide at the Norbulingka seemed to sum up the feelings of the Tibetan man in the street when he asked: "How can we be sure that the current (relatively friendly) Chinese policies towards Tibet will last?"

SPECTRUM

The eagle lost in space . . .

HARVEST OF THE SUN

Part 3
Old glory

The melancholy assessment could hardly come from a more damning source. Pete Conrad, who walked on the moon in 1969 and commanded America's Skylab in 1973, believes the Russians are now ahead of America in most key areas of space exploration.

"If you ask me who is building the data on going to Mars, I'd say they are," he said recently. "A trip to Mars takes roughly 450 days. They'll have experience with man in space for 300 days if their current flight is successful. Our longest trip is about 85 days."

The lead the Americans once established in space has all but evaporated, he said, because the last five presidents have given low priority to space and the country has failed to establish long-term goals. The Russians and even the French and Chinese were now catching up fast.

His views are being echoed across the country as a trumpet of alarm has been sounded. Newspapers and magazines have been bitterly critical recently of NASA's floundering attempts to get back into orbit. *Newsweek* devotes a whole special issue this week to America's faltering space programme entitled "Lost in Space." The cover shows a US astronaut drifting out into the void on the end of his life support cord.

The worry at being left behind has been growing ever since the traumatic explosion of the shuttle Challenger last year, followed by the maddening coincidence of failures with older conventional rockets. But it has been hastened by recent developments that point up the contrast with the steady progress the Russians have been making: the fact that while Moscow made 91 launches last year — 90 of them successfully — the US managed only nine, and three failed. The Russians, on target with their new heavy-lift rocket *Energia*, are even offering to launch US satellites on a contract basis at cut-price rates — and have had the gall to take on an American agent to tout for business.

"The Soviets have set up a very steady, thoughtful, well

The Americans may be anguishing over the tatters of their space programme, but Michael Binyon finds them complacent about Russian plans to build an industrial empire in space

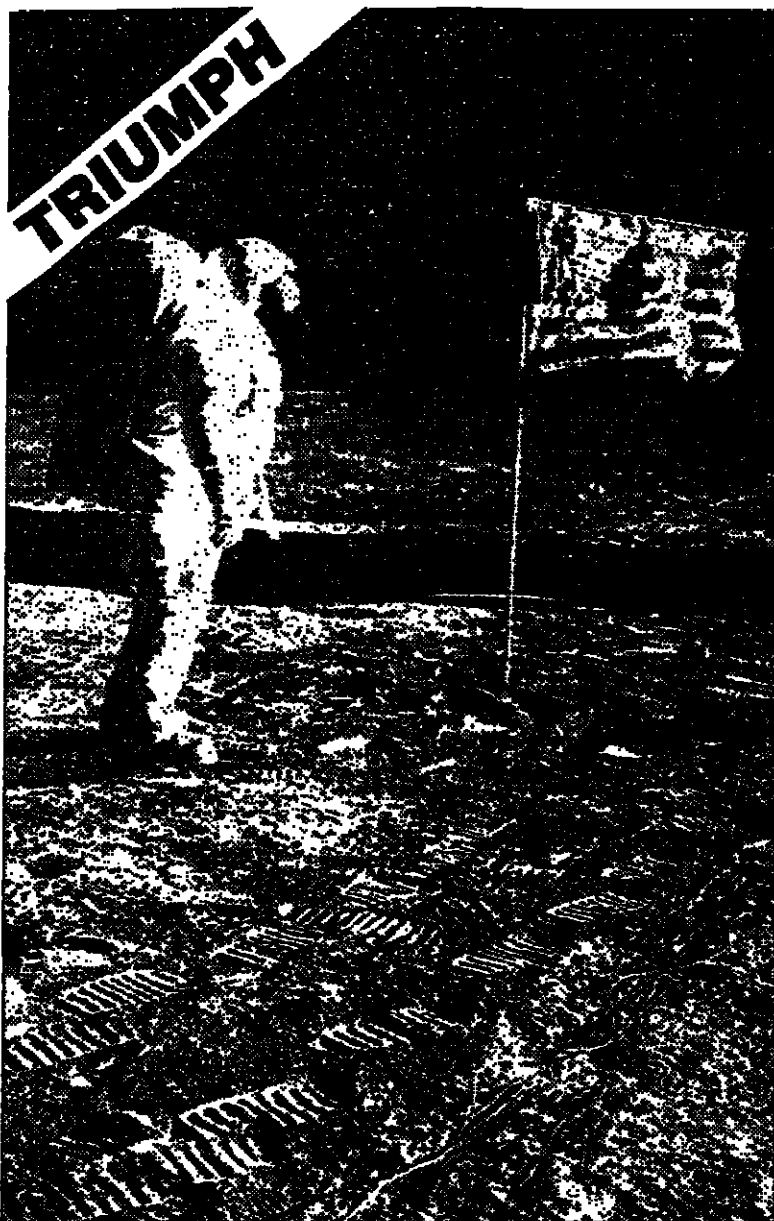
laid-out programme," says Senator John Glenn of Ohio, the former astronaut and the man who more than anyone embodies American achievement and heroism in space. "You have got to give them credit. We had better look out: they are catching up."

Catching up? Joseph Allen, another former astronaut, puts it much more strongly. By the time the US space platform flies in the 1990s, he says, the Russians will "be putting condominiums up there". Allen is one of the few Americans to have taken aboard the untimely, namely that the Russians are in the lead. He believes the United States is in danger of becoming "the Portugal of space": the country that got to the New World early, but then stepped back and let others develop it.

Certainly, the recent launch of a huge Soviet radar satellite, the *Cosmos 1870*, has stirred up some concern. The much smaller American equivalent, the *EOS* platform, is not planned to launch before 1996. This week Representative Bill Nelson, a Florida Democrat and chairman of the House space subcommittee, said: "This means that for five years they've been working on something that we're not going to put up until the next decade. That makes concern the order of the day. There's no over-reaction to this. They've been making obvious gains."

But few Americans would agree that the Russians are getting there with better equipment or superior engineering. NASA experts still insist that the Russians' huge new *Energia* rocket is far from the cutting edge of technology, and in fact only puts the Russians where the US was 20 years ago with the Saturn rocket that took Conrad and others to the moon.

They also insist that the reason Moscow needs to launch so many satellites is because they are worse in quality and have a shorter life. By contrast, they say, the US long ago abandoned Saturn for the longer-lasting shuttle, and sold the tooling for scrap.



There is also widespread scepticism in Washington about the grandiose Soviet plans to industrialize space, as outlined in the first two parts of our series: plans to illuminate cities using sun-deflecting mirrors; the transporting of energy through space by lasers; and the creation of orbiting solar power stations. Americans who know the Soviet Union well cite the enormous economic and technological obstacles on the ground, let alone in space, and the long lead times between laboratory testing and practical implementation. The Russians' penchant for grandiose panaceas to intractable problems is notorious.

Against that, however, the Americans are well known for believing that nothing important can happen outside their frontiers. The Russians have a master plan, well advanced, to develop space as a wealth-creating resource — and in *Energia*, which can lift the equivalent of nine US space shuttles' flights and which is relatively cheap because it can be recovered and reused, they have the means to do it. The United States, by contrast, has no clear civilian strategy. If the story of space is that of the hare and the tortoise, it seems

that the American hare is still half asleep.

"The Americans still do not believe it all," says Alan Bond, designer of the HOTOL engine, and head of space propulsion at the UK Atomic Energy Authority at Culham. "But my colleagues and I are convinced... that the Russians are now years ahead along the path to space industrialization and poised to gain economic leadership of the world. Russian rockets may look crude but under the casing they are years ahead in engine performance."

In the military field people do not doubt that Russia is watching America's Star Wars plans with anxiety and is pushing ahead with similar developments of its own. It will feel forced to try to realize these if SDI cannot be blocked at the negotiating table. However the US is now critically short of launching capacity, to the extent that the Pentagon is doubtful whether it now has enough military and spy satellites in space to monitor any arms control agreement.

It is, of course, in the interests both of the Pentagon and of NASA to play up the Soviet challenge. The hardliners in the Defense Depart-

HIGHS AND LOWS

Dec 6, 1957: Vanguard, carrying US hopes for matching the Oct 4 launch of Sputnik 1, and Nov 3 launch of Sputnik 2, explodes on the launch pad

Jan 31, 1958: Werner von Braun's crash project hurries Explorer 1 into orbit aboard a Juno military rocket

May 5, 1961: Alan Shepard takes a 15½-minute hop into space to salvage denied US pride over Yuri Gagarin's 1½-hour orbital flight on April 12 — the first man in space

May 25, 1961: President Kennedy commits the US, within the decade, to landing a man on the Moon and returning him safely

Jan 17, 1967: Disasterous fire kills three American astronauts inside an Apollo spacecraft in routine tests

July 16, 1968: Apollo 11 astronauts Neil Armstrong and Edwin Aldrin land on the Moon — "one giant leap for mankind" (left)

1972: Three Apollo flights cancelled amid growing public indifference to space

May-Nov 1973: Three Skylab flights, orbiting Americans for up to 59 days, but public enthusiasm continues to wane

July 15, 1975: Americans and Russians meet in orbit in the Apollo-Soyuz docking

April 12, 1981: First flight of the Space Shuttle, long delayed after massive cost increases

1984: US space shuttles make eight flights

Jan 28, 1986: Space Shuttle Challenger disintegrates, killing its crew and shattering US hopes of routine shuttle flights (right)



6 The United States is in danger of becoming the Portugal of space: the country that got to the New World early, but then stepped back and let others develop it

Joseph Allen, former US astronaut

ment — which is itching to get back into the space programme — know that Congress will only vote the billions it wants for SDI if the country can be convinced of the continuing Soviet military threat, and that the Russians are themselves already conducting similar research.

More than a decade ago US generals were warning that Moscow was far ahead in laser technology and in charged particle beams.

NASA has seen its own programme progress in fits and starts according to public enthusiasm for space and worry about what the Russians are up to. It was, after all, the shock of the Sputnik and

Yuri Gagarin's flight that opened the purse strings in America and started the whole race in space. NASA says it does not want another race. Experts agree that while this might reject a sense of urgency into the US space programme, it would be devastating to any attempt to set long-term goals, an area where the Americans are already handicapped.

Nicholas Johnson, a Teledyne scientist and Soviet space expert, told *Newsweek* that the Soviet goal was nothing less than the evolution of man into space. "They really see that as inevitable, and they aim to be a large part of it, if not the leading part." Experts in America note that

whereas NASA launched Skylab, left it empty for most of its 75-month life and let it die in 1979, the Russians kept seven successive stations in orbit and accumulated three times the US total of hours in space.

The problem for the Americans is that they do not have any clear idea of what they now want to do in space. Contracts are to be awarded this autumn to begin work on a space platform that could cost \$32 billion (£20 billion). The Challenger is to be replaced with a new shuttle at an equally enormous cost. But critics argue that neither is necessary and that these are luxuries at a time of huge federal budget deficits. They want what they believe to be an unsophisticated Soviet-style programme.

Unsophisticated? At the moment the Soviets have planned for nothing less than economic domination of the world," says Alan Bond. "If our political system is to match the threat or beat it, we must treat space development as a massive engineering project composed of many elements, with detailed planning so that each part fits its role within an overall plan. That is what the Soviets have

done with *Energia* and the rest of its programme."

He is not sure, however, that America is capable of grasping what is needed. "America might be able to match the Soviet moves with gadgets — spacecrafts, space stations and space power satellites — but it will be in vain unless they form part of a developing long-term plan. Their recently published National Space Plan has the space budget linked to national income."

He says: "If America is rich, they do some space research, if it is poor, they don't — rather like a hobby. In the end, the best chance for the West may be in collaboration between Europe and Japan. The French, Japanese and German governments are the only western ones to show a real perception of the promise of space development; and a European-Japanese collaboration would, have a much greater base of wealth than even the US."

The West should remember Aesop's fable — the tortoise won the race.

Additional reporting by Keith Ehladay

THE TIMES GUERNSEY GILET IN 100% NEW WOOL

This 'gilet' or button-through waistcoat is warm and practical as well as being smart and stylish to wear. It is made in Guernsey from 100% pure new wool and has many of the features that make Guernsey knitwear so popular.

The gilet is made up with a tight close knit for added warmth and wind resistance and the strong high-quality wool ensures that it is tough and hard-wearing. The styling is classic, with a ribbed crew-neck, armholes and hem, with the same neat ribbing knitted across the two patch pockets. The gilet buttons through from neck to hem, and is also characterised as a Guernsey garment by the small slit openings at either side of the deep hem.

Suitable for both men and women, the Gilet is ideal as a stylish body warmer over shirts and tops and will team well with a variety of skirts and trousers. The Guernsey gilet is a smart high-quality garment that has been specially selected for Times readers and is available in a choice of navy blue or grey with black buttons or oatmeal with wooden buttons. It may be dry cleaned or hand washed with care.

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Burnt offerings

The new craze for barbecues has brought about a resurgence of interest in an old rural craft

A fragrant blue smoke drifting through the Lakeland woods announces that the charcoal burner is back at his ancient trade and challenging foreign companies who have been meeting the demand for a light, "clean" barbecue fuel.

Sales of barbecue equipment defy the frequent disappointments of British summers. Harrods, for example, offers models costing up to £1,500 for a grill and a prayer for balmy evenings yet to come.

Most charcoal is imported from Spain, Portugal and the United States and costs the retailers about £2 for a 5lb bag. The people behind a pilot project to produce it in Cumbria intend to undercut the competition with the home-made variety, at £1.25 for a 5lb bag. They are being supported by the New Woodsmanship Trust and the Lake District Special Planning Board, both of whom are optimistic that profits from the venture can be used to improve woods.

Walter Lloyd, a Lancashire farmer and former Royal Navy man, is at the sharp end of the experiment. Living in a horse-drawn caravan, he tends his two kilns in extensive woodland stretching through the Eastland Valley between lakes Windermere and Coniston. "It is charcoal that created these woods," he says. "Coppicing, the practice of using trees as a renewable crop, is the reason that they have survived."

For centuries men cut down some of the trees to produce



Charcoal burner: Walter Lloyd at his camp in Cumbria

clusters of shoots, or "poles", that could be gathered when they reached a usable diameter. What the men did not do was clear away the woods completely, which was what repeatedly happened in agricultural areas.

Charcoal is produced by creating a carefully controlled "burn" of 2 ft lengths of wood in a kiln which contains a limited supply of air. Constant vigilance is needed to ensure that the wood is only partly burnt, not incinerated, and to leave charcoal from which all impurities have been driven out. The most commonly used types of wood are oak, birch and hazel, which are cut just above the ground to allow regrowth.

Michael Gee of the NWT, a charity set up to develop uses for trees, says: "There has been a lot of concern about the future of broad-leaved woodland. The Lake District contains some of the largest tracts left in the country."

"About 50 years have

passed since charcoal was produced in significant quantities and as long ago as the First World War some factories were importing it."

The shadowy charcoal burners, with their wigwag-shaped shelters, received rare exposure in Arthur Ransome's illustrations for *Swallows and Amazons*, which was published in 1936. By then the burners were already moving towards the end of their era.

Before the industrial revolution, charcoal was immensely important to existing furnaces and was a major source of employment in forest areas. "If it is successful we hope to open more kilns in other parts of the Lake District," Gee says. "There is the prospect of new jobs, but they will be for the sort of people who like this type of life. It is not easy money working in the woods in all conditions."

John A. Hill

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CONCISE CROSSWORD NO 1333

ACROSS
1 Categorize (8)
5 Nimble (4)
9 Slim (7)
10 Summarize (5)
11 Establish (3,2)
12 Laymen (5)
13 Evade decision (5)
15 Filch (5)
16 Ship of the desert (5)
18 Political gathering (5)
20 Striped ruminant (5)
21 Exploratory oil drill (7)
23 Minute (4)
24 Marriage offer (8)

DOWN
1 Offhand (6)
2 Repugnance (8)
3 Windfall (3)
4 1914-1918 conflict (5,5,3)
6 Robin Goodfellow (4)
7 Young professional (6)
8 Prediction (8)
11 In combined action (6)
14 Syrian capital (8)
15 Avant-garde (3,3)
17 Door beam (6)
19 Advantage (4)
22 Cut back (3)

SOLUTION TO NO 1332

ACROSS: 1 Gossip 5 Single 8 ESP 9 Rather 10 Ultima
11 Peer 12 Unlucky 14 Runic spoon 17 Scullion 19 Dodo
20 Piazza 23 Beetle 24 NUI 25 Escrow 26 Ender
DOWN: 2 Ours 3 Spherical 4 Perturb 5 Symp 6 Nuf
7 Limpopo 13 Repudiate 15 Uction 16 Ennoble 18 Inane
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THE TIMES DIARY

Bolt from the blue

Last month a rookie police constable, Tony Geary, claimed he had a miraculous escape from a sniper in South London when his personal radio stopped a crossbow bolt fired by a maniac from piercing his heart. Geary told the world: "I have no intention of quitting over this. I want to stay a policeman." The prospect is apparently looking less likely. Yesterday I learnt that Geary, who had been on sick leave with arm injuries, has been suspended. Detective Inspector David Wood, who is leading an inquiry into Geary's story, told me: "A report is being sent to the Director of Public Prosecutions." Though the latest edition of *Police Review* features the story of Geary's escape and reports the praise heaped upon him by superiors, at the weekend a Sunday newspaper cast strong doubts on his account.

Kinnock's team

Neil Kinnock, I can announce, has now formed the Shadow Cabinet committee he intends to act as the engine-room for the party's economic policy-making. The idea to give the role to an inner-cabinet rather than delegate it to his economic spokesmen emerged when Kinnock appointed his frontbench team after the election. In what will be a relief to some in the Shadow Cabinet, he has left Hattersley, who voluntarily relinquished the shadow chancellorship, has been included, as has Denis Davies, a former Treasury spokesman. Even John Prescott, whose team-turf with Jim Callaghan was ill-received by Kinnock, and who was miffed to land only the energy brief after coming second in the Shadow Cabinet poll, has been allowed in.

Late blooms

With the Labour Party's membership dropping after the election the people's party has hit on a new scheme to persuade faint-hearted socialists to sport the red rose. Gone it seems are the days of the ostentatious two-inch campaign button. The latest Labour Party News is selling silver earrings (£11.99) and tiny red enamel brooches (£1). "These stylish enamel rose badges are ideal to broadcast your support for Labour in a subtle way," it suggests coyly.

As London Zoo hopes for the return of its ransomed owls, the Theatre Caddis Company's production of the gothic spoof *Nightmare Abbey* on the Edinburgh Fringe is lacking an essential part of its atmosphere — to wit (to woo) one stuffed owl, stolen from the company van.

In-pork export

Photographer royal Norman Parkinson is about to introduce to Britain the culinary delicacy for which he is famous on the Caribbean island of Tobago — the Parkinson banger. Parkinson, who breeds pigs at his farm there, is so keen on sausage production that he has an abattoir in his back garden, in which he can dispatch 50 squealers at a time. Producing the sausages commercially on the island, he is shortly to market them in Britain and has won backing for the venture from Bill Muirhead, chairman of Saatchi & Saatchi Compton. Saatchi tells me that the idea was born over lunch when Parkinson casually mentioned his interest to Muirhead. Bruce's Butchers in Twickenham, west London, three times winners of a national sausage competition, have been entrusted to produce them from Parkinson's secret recipe.

BARRY FANTONI



David Owen? I believe he's busy talking to Abdul Qadir

New Romantic

The Wordsworth Trust announced yesterday that the Prime Minister was to become patron of a major exhibition on Wordsworth and the Age of English Romanticism to be held in the US later this year. I must confess the news of Mrs T's involvement tickled one eyebrow skyward. She is known to take Kipling's words on holiday and recently recited a Rupert Brooke poem on television, but the young Wordsworth's radicalism can hardly be her cup of tea. The trust's honorary secretary, Robert Woolf, speaking from Dove Cottage in Grasmere, scolded my fears: "One of the things Mrs Thatcher does say about herself is that she is a radical." And we all know who sings Blake's *Jerusalem*.

PHS

Justice for the traveller abroad

by Wesley Gryk

Captain Simon Hayward's conviction in Sweden on charges of drug smuggling has focused public attention on the difficulty facing any individual charged with a criminal offence outside his own country. In such cases, the accused's lack of familiarity with the institutions, procedures and laws add to the trauma of meeting the charges made and attempting to establish innocence. If anything, Captain Hayward's situation has been better than that of most British nationals facing criminal prosecutions abroad. Few criminal defendants, at home or abroad, would be able to marshal the resources which the captain brought to his defence. Members of the British establishment, including an MP and the captain's former commanding officer, were in Sweden to assist his confidence in his integrity. The finest legal expertise, both British and Swedish, has been available to him.

The publicity given to Hayward's case meant that those working on his behalf have been able to obtain wide publicity with respect to the very real shortcomings in the Swedish judicial procedures relating to the use of extended pre-trial solitary confinement and the admission of

hearsay evidence. This cannot help but put continued pressure on the Swedish authorities dealing with his case.

The National Council for the Welfare of Prisoners Abroad notes that its organization currently has on its books representations made on behalf of more than 300 Britons incarcerated in some 51 countries. These include many individuals who are held after conviction at trials which, by British standards of justice, would be considered inadequate. They also include individuals held without any right to trial. There are likely to be many similar cases which have not come to the attention of the national council, an organization set up specifically to deal with the problems of British nationals detained abroad.

The problem with such cases is that no country (including, of course, the United Kingdom) wishes to submit to external interference in its domestic traditional system. Under the Treaty of Vienna or under a separate bilateral treaty, the British embassy in a particular country does have the right to be informed about the detention of a British

national in that country. However, while it can then insist on the right of an embassy official to visit the detained individual and arrange legal representation for him, it cannot insist that special standards of justice be applied. The basic rule applicable is the "national treatment doctrine", whereby aliens and nationals of the country concerned are entitled in principle to equal treatment. This same doctrine, however, precludes better than equal treatment for the foreign detainee.

It is only since the end of the Second World War that there has begun to be some slight evolution in this position, with the articulation of certain international "minimum standards" for the protection of human rights, in instruments such as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and the European Convention on Human Rights. Each of these has tried to walk a delicate line of specifying particular guarantees on a fair trial while at the same time trying not to impose a bias towards one sort of legal system or another.

The result has been that many of the standards defined remain on a level of considerable generality. Yet, even on such a level, the standards may prove relevant in particular cases. Those criticizing the procedures followed in Hayward's case with respect to the admission of hearsay evidence, for example, are likely to cite Article 6 (3) of the European Convention, which specifies the right of everyone charged with a criminal offence "to examine or have examined witnesses against him".

As with much of international human rights law, however, the problem is the lack of adequate and effective enforcement mechanisms. The European Convention is one of the few human rights instruments which provides a real procedure for complaints to be heard. But that procedure will not even begin to function until after the captain's appeal has been heard in Sweden and then could take several years thereafter. His position, therefore, remains a most difficult one, though none the less one in many ways more privileged than that of many of his countrymen who find themselves in foreign prisons.

The author is an international lawyer specializing in human rights law

Jill Sherman on a health district that treads where the Government dare not

Health service privateer

The Social Services Secretary, John Moore, will come under increasing pressure over the next year to find ways of meeting rising demands on the National Health Service without significantly increasing public spending. The Government has until now been surprisingly reluctant to explore ways to supplement central funding for the NHS, fearing that any such move would be politically compromising. Even a comparatively innocent draft circular on income-raising in the NHS has lain dormant for more than a year.

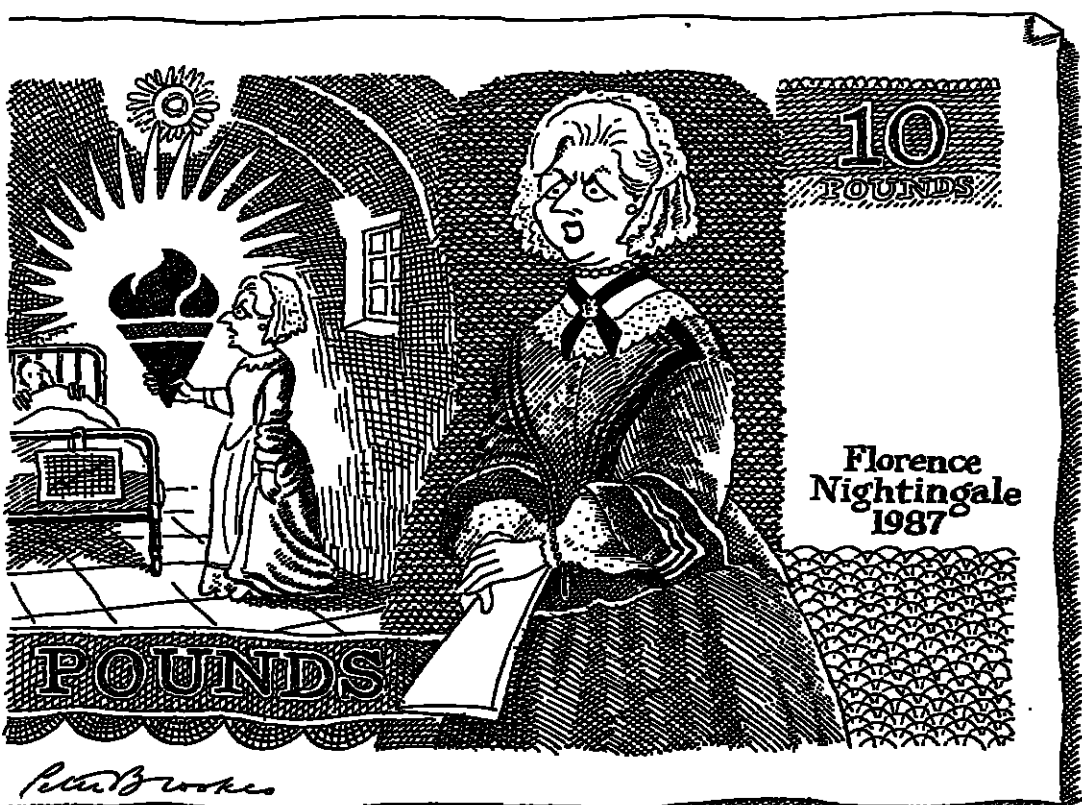
Yet only a stone's throw from Westminster, in the Labour-controlled borough of Hackney, one of Moore's 192 district general managers is implementing, by the back door, everything that the Government has shied away from.

In the past six months City and Hackney Health Authority has set up two *in vitro* fertilization clinics with the private sector, used private hospitals to reduce waiting lists, shared medical equipment with a private hospital, started charging other authorities for its services, and asked general practitioners outside London to refer their patients to their own areas.

"Market forces" and "competition" are now common parlance to Dr Kenneth Grant, the authority's general manager, a former Labour chairman of Bloomsbury ward, who now says he is a political agnostic. The Labour-controlled borough council does not approve of the changes he has made, nor does the left-wing community health council, which claims that Dr Grant is single-handedly undermining the principle of the NHS that services should be free. Nevertheless, the charismatic doctor has already persuaded his health authority, on which all these organizations are well represented, to allow him to "explore" fund-raising projects and marketing schemes for clinical and non-clinical services, including setting up contracts with other health authorities, overseas clients and City firms.

In October, for example, St Bartholomew's Hospital is opening a fee-paying breast cancer clinic to screen women aged over 40 in the City. It hopes to extend this to other women's services, such as cervical cancer screening, and to hypertension screening for heart disease. The only project that the authority has rejected outright is the least radical proposal — setting up a private wing at Barts (most other London teaching hospitals have them).

City and Hackney Health Authority is in an inner London district which encompasses poverty on the one hand and a thriving business community in the City on the other. Grant



formerly a district medical officer based at Barts, is a consultant who has a well-established network of contacts and is well-tuned to the art of fund-raising directly from the "well" patient.

After a spate of publicity during the general election campaign, one businessman who had a heart attack in the Barbican offered £150,000 to upgrade a resuscitation room. Grant is also appealing directly to companies to sponsor operations — for example, 200 hip operations courtesy of a leading chain store or merchant bank, with the firms' names on the hospital bandages.

The authority, traditionally overprovided with hospital services, has had its annual £88 million budget reduced by more than £4 million over the past four years as part of the Government's policy of redistributing money to poorer parts of the country. It now says it cannot afford to treat more patients, even though it still has spare capacity.

This year the authority for the first time decided to cut down the number of patients it treated, by 2,700 a year, and had to ask GPs in neighbouring authorities to refer patients elsewhere. Like other London teaching districts, a high proportion of its patients are referred from authorities in other parts of the country.

Grant argues that the hospital should be paid directly for these

operations, where it has proven expertise, and that an internal market should start operating in the NHS whereby hospitals could start selling services to one another. St Bartholomew's, for example, is now charging for expensive techniques such as growth hormone replacement, children's eye tumour operations, and some kidney treatments.

Grant may epitomize the new breed of general manager in the health service, but in his backdoor manoeuvres, which have taken even his own district by surprise, he has already bent, if not broken, several rules in the NHS book. He has launched profit-making ventures by setting up fee-paying schemes, even though the NHS is not permitted to make a profit. He has also set up a breast screening centre for those who can afford to pay, without providing the same service to the NHS.

Local consultants are worried that the authority's decision to charge other authorities for a fixed amount of operations will result in queue-jumping. Patients who are referred directly by GPs to consultants at the hospital may have to wait longer while the hospital treats patients sent by their authorities with a fee attached.

Doctors also concede about charging in advance for specialist operations. In one case a hospital sent back a patient to the referring district because the general manager refused to pay. If a

patient is seriously ill, or there is a chance he may not get treatment he needs locally, can the hospital justifiably turf him out of bed?

The unions claim that Grant is sending the district back to the Poor Law era in his efforts to set up fund-raising events. They say the health service should be centrally funded and not propped up by charitable donations.

The Social Services Secretary would, however, do well to look at the lessons Grant has learned; he may even have done so, quietly. Moore's department, which has denied rumours that it is reviewing NHS funding, appears to be turning a blind eye to events in the City and Hackney district.

Nevertheless, a recent study by the Public Expenditure Policy Group, headed by a former principal finance officer at the Department of Health and Social Security, showed public support for charges when using the NHS. Last week, health service managers set up their own review of alternative funding, claiming that a tax-funded service would not, realistically, be able to cope with future demand.

Although he is allowing others, such as the City and Hackney authority and the Institute of Health Services Management, to do his leg work, Moore will impress few people with denials that alternative methods of funding the health service are not on his agenda.

Iraq is too weak to do much about its wish for a different regime in Tehran, Iran, on the other hand, sticks to its declared intention of toppling Saddam Hussein and installing a successor who is sympathetic to Iranian views. To make it clear that this war is not between peoples, the Ayatollah Musavi-Ardabili made a surprising assertion. "The Iraqi nation is not at fault," he said in a sermon at Friday prayers at Tehran University on May 15. "We are one victim of aggression and the Iraqi nation is another. We must deliver both nations, with God's blessings."

Whether the Iraqi nation would view such destabilization as deliverance is another question. Some Iraqi Shias would welcome it. Most Sunnis would not. Judging from Iran's mistreatment of its own minorities (the followers of the Baha'i religion are one example) those with the most to fear would be the smaller Iraqi minorities, the Turcomans, the Chaldeans and Armenian Christians and others.

Iraq has already refused the UN Security Council resolution calling for a ceasefire and withdrawal of troops to pre-war borders. It will have no effect on Iranian ambitions. Nor is Tehran able to achieve these quickly, if at all. In the meantime, the propaganda, like the fighting, goes on. The author works for the BBC Monitoring Service, Caversham.

Ben Pimlott

Rehousing the SDP refugees

Now that the disintegration of the SDP is almost complete, it is worth considering what is likely to happen to the bits. What does history tell us about the fate of members of a breakaway party? What options are available to the rank and file?

Of 10 minor parties (apart from one-man bands and Celtic groupings) that have won seats in general elections this century, only one — the Communists — has managed to maintain its independence for long. Two splinters from the Liberals, the Joseph Chamberlainite Liberal Unionists and the Liberal National Party, both disappeared into the Conservative Party, as did the sole Tory breakaway, Henry Page Croft's National Party, founded in 1917. Of four ex-Labour groups, two were spin-offs from coalitions: the First World War National Democratic Party, and the Ramsay MacDonaldite National Labour Party. Both were creatures of the governments they were formed to support, and soon became politically indistinguishable from them.

The only example before the SDP of a Labour breakaway with any ideological vigour was James Maxton's Independent Labour Party, which decided to fight alone in 1932. In contrast to the Social Democrats, the ILP was a left-wing group with a strongly localized appeal. Nationally, it lost members fast, and reunited with Labour after the last war. It will be seen that, except for the Chamberlainites (a 19th not a 20th century formation) the SDP has been the most successful as well as electorally the most durable. It may also be felt, however, that temporary success has been achieved, not through a defiance of the laws of gravity, but because the SDP's independence was shrewdly nurtured by the Liberals for just so long as it was useful to them; and because of Labour's nervous breakdown. Once these conditions ceased to apply, the SDP's disappearance became inevitable. By voting to merge with its patron, the SDP has followed the example of its predecessors, when they no longer had a role.

Nevertheless it would be foolish to treat Dr Owen's mooted breakaway from his own breakaway as mere summer petulance. The chances of a separatist SDP doing anything except eliminate those MPs unwise enough to join it are zero. Yet the political fact which it represents — the resistance of a large minority of Social Democrats to the absorption of their party — has importance.

The SDP dissidents, who include half the party's ruling council, face a hard choice. Some may return in disillusion to the non-political void, whence they came. Others, after experimenting with the Owenite lost cause, will doubtless accept the wily Tory embrace and seek careers in that party. But there is also a residue of true radicals, for whom woolly-minded

Liberal impotence has no attraction, yet who find Thatcherism abhorrent. For these, the Labour Party should offer a new appeal.

On the domestic front, the difference between welfare-minded SDP-ers and mainstream Labour opinion is more emotional than real. Of the policies that have been overtaken by the passage of time, there remain serious difficulties, but Labour Party membership has never entailed a vow of obedience to any particular programme. Moreover, Labour is now showing a real desire to start the policy-building process afresh. Here is an opportunity for eager recruits.

Obviously, the transition will not be possible for everyone. Some will find a second switch psychologically difficult, and many will be wary of Labour even in its more open-minded mode. Others, because of their opinions or because they were prominently involved in a desertion that contributed to Labour's defeat at two elections, will not be welcome. But there is a sizeable group, including many SDP members who have never been in any other party, who should not find the gap impossible to bridge.

A key factor will be the attitude that awaits them. Labour will naturally be cautious about taking in people who recently backed a political enemy, and there can be no general amnesty. But there should be no spirit of vindictiveness either. For those who have not stood as candidates, there is no constitutional ground for opposing admission, and there are solid political reasons for encouraging it. Although the Social Democrats were initially weighed down with second-tier Labour MPs mainly motivated by aggression towards former colleagues, this element has been partially displaced, and the SDP now includes a number of policy-minded experts, often sharply egalitarian in approach, who would be a positive asset.

To bring in some active SDP supporters would help Labour win over crucial electoral support, for example among skilled and white collar workers. There would also be hope of scooping up some of the small but influential progressive middle class, whose backing is vital if Labour is to shape a new consensus.

There has been much talk of a "realignment" in politics to end the long domination of the right. In the short term the most effective form of realignment may be to offer an olive branch to former friends. Now that Labour can do so from a position of strength, the time has come for a carefully worded speech making clear that there is room, within Labour's broad community, for any serious and constructive person who wants to get rid of the present government, and work for a better future.

however . . . Howard Jacobson

Long life and gloominess

Sitting on a Cornish cliff top the other day, having no choice but to listen to *Woman's Hour* on a neighbouring mountaineer's transistor radio, I heard someone who had just written a book on the subject explaining how it was possible to smile away everything from a mere unsightly wart to a tumour which even the most sanguine doctors had pronounced incurable. Smile away, you must understand. Not just go with a laugh and a joke, gurgling and chortling into that good night. You could actually chirp yourself back to perfect health, that was her point. You could smirk the malignancy clean out of your body.

The speaker herself had one of those hysterically vitalistic voices that you often encounter in the bravely distraught, those who will tell you, while their eyes pinpoint horrors, that they have never had a depressed day in their lives, never once doubted God's plan, never been lonely, never known what it was to be bored. On a narrow precipice, several hundred feet above sea level, the voice in the tranny, advocating jollity, swung like a funeral knell. Not wanting to ask for it to be turned off — I think one should be tolerant in these matters, and anyway it could have been worse: it could have been Gloria Hunniford or David Jacobs — I lay back in the sullen gorse and listened to the insects scrapping. Above me the seagulls circled in their usual filthy mood. A couple of bees buzzed each other over a sort of pollen. Down below, the sea snarled at the rocks. The lobsters howled in their pots. Nowhere on the entire face of nature was there a semblance of a smile to be seen. Only man, by which of course I mean also to include woman, tortments himself with the idea that it behooves him to show his gums and say, "Cheese!"

"Smile!" the very people with whom you would be least likely ever to share a joke exhort you from their T-shirts and their beach bags and the lapel badges on their anoraks. "Smile," you are dared from the rear of the Datsun Sunny in front of you. "Smile — if you have had sex today." As if anyone ever smiled after sex. "Smile!" adults were always

ordering me when I was a child, as though my not doing so were a breach of the social contract itself. "Watch!" One of my uncles used to say to me. And I was meant to say "Watch!" back, whereupon he would reply: "That chair over there. I didn't move a muscle on my face. It's possible I had no sense of humour. 'Smile!' he would then rage. 'It may never happen.'"

"Too late," I invariably replied. "It already has." I wasn't being smart. All children know that along with original sin they bear the burden of original gloom. It had already happened and there was nothing any smile of mine could do to reverse it. God's voice had walked in the garden, between the soap-sops and the cross-words and the avenues of weeping-birch, and had not said anything that was funny. Even judged by the standards of the most serious religious thinkers, He in whose image we are fashioned is unusual for the small number of amusing things He did say. And "Get out of my garden" wasn't one of them.

As for the curative powers of a happy disposition, no claim is more demonstrably untrue. Why are the old always querulous? temper get on well together. You don't become irascible because you've lived long, you live long because you always were irascible. "Bile!" is the favourite expression of the healthiest, most mole and wart-free man I know. "Bile!" It is an expression of opinion which covers all contingencies. Try saying it and you will see how good for you it is. It actually tightens the face muscles and straightens the back. Feel your spine harden? Feel your jaw set?

Now say "Smile!" and feel the difference. Your mouth goes slack, your shoulders droop, your eyes hurt, a couple of thousand brain cells die with the shame of unemployment. The truth is the body doesn't want to smile approvingly, any more than does the spirit. Elephants look lugubrious and live forever. Left to their own devices baboons grow plentiful showing their backsides. A seasoned sadness and an equable contempt — that's the secret of rude health.



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PROTECTION FOR WHOM?

The Government is to send Royal Navy minesweepers to the Gulf, thus appearing to reverse its earlier decision not to do so. As we argued at the time, the first Whitehall policy was wrong. Last night's development is, therefore, a move in the right direction.

The question remains: has Britain moved far enough? Mr George Younger, Secretary of State for Defence, announcing the decision after a meeting in Downing Street, made clear that the four Hunt-class minesweepers (MCMs) would be dispatched to help the Royal Navy's Armilla patrol. He said that they would be sailing in response to a changed situation, following the discovery of a mine in the Gulf of Oman.

This is a plan in careful diplomatic wrapping. Are the MCMs to help US tankers and warships or are they merely there to boost the British patrols? Has the earlier reply to the American request been reversed or have we found a way to have it both ways — to help the Americans if necessary while being able to claim that we are only helping ourselves?

Until now the British Government took a sympathetic but otherwise detached view of the danger from mines facing American warships in the main Gulf War zone as they escort tankers to and from Kuwait. As the tiny Armilla patrol of two or three Royal Navy warships ventures no farther forward than Bahrain, it was argued that the new menace did not directly concern it. It was in the light of this argument that the Government last month rejected an American request to send MCMs to the Gulf to help the United States Navy.

But last night's announcement from the

Ministry of Defence still leaves open the question of what might be the British response to an appeal for help from other shipping in the Gulf. How might the four MCMs, the most sophisticated of their kind in the Royal Navy, respond if called upon to help US ships? Mr Younger's statement left the inference to be drawn that their Gulf role would be limited. If so, then Britain will still be accused with justice of selling its ally short.

The US Administration has been under heavy criticism in Congress for its decision to allow eleven Kuwaiti tankers to be refuelled under the Stars and Stripes — and to provide these with US naval protection. A number of Congressmen feel, and rightly so, that the responsibility for keeping the Gulf waters open should be shared — and that countries such as Britain should play a part.

The Government's wish not to involve itself heavily in the Gulf is understandable. Britain has heavy NATO commitments, already spends a larger proportion of its GNP on defence than do most of its North Atlantic allies and has not the resources of a superpower like the USA. But to offer a minesweeping facility to the Americans is a gesture which could easily be made — and would do much to strengthen both the special relationship and the country's international reputation.

It would therefore be appropriate for the Government to make clear now to the White House that the facility which is being added to the Armilla patrol will be available to the US navy, if needed. It would be an important psychological gain for the White House. But should we fail to do so, the greater loss will be Britain's.

GOOD NEWS FROM GUATEMALA

One peace plan does not necessarily end a war. But that produced for Central America through the initiative of President Oscar Arias of Costa Rica might just end two of them.

This may well sound unduly optimistic. The skeletal agreement, which was signed amid great excitement in Guatemala City last week, will need much more flesh on its bones before its chances of survival can be judged.

It has already been rejected by the Democratic Revolutionary Front — the insurgents who are fighting the US-backed government in El Salvador. The rebel Contras, who, with United States aid, are trying to unseat the Sandinista Marxist regime in Nicaragua, have given it a sceptical reception.

Its proposals are by no means the first to emerge during more than ten years of political struggle and bloodshed in the region. It is not even the only plan in existence at this time.

The most famous peace initiative so far has been that known as the Contadora process (after the island where it was drawn up), which was pioneered five years ago by President Belisario Betancur of Colombia and the governments of Mexico, Panama and Venezuela. They produced a draft agreement which was at first accepted by the Sandinistas — but then collapsed after other countries in the region, including the United States, refused to accept it as it stood.

Contadora continued with strong support from Western Europe (among others) and produced yet more proposals. Its big attraction was that it represented an attempt to solve the region's problems by four of the region's own members. But it stalled again last year after failing once more to find a compromise peace package which would be acceptable to Managua on the one hand and its neighbours on the other.

Three years ago, the Mexicans also engineered the Manzanillo talks (christened thus after the Mexican town where they took place) between Nicaragua and the United States. At first the concept of direct negotiations looked promising. But these too ended amid mutual recriminations, each side accusing the other of not acting in good faith.

Then last week, some two days before the Arias deal was signed, President Reagan unveiled his own alternative. This called for an immediate ceasefire, the suspension of military aid to both the Sandinista government and the Contras and negotiations over free elections in Managua. Meanwhile Washington reserved the right to resume its aid to the Contras if no timetable had been agreed by the end of next month.

THROUGH THE TRADE GAP

Although yesterday's trade figures were good enough to lighten further the worries in the City created by the Chancellor's one-point rise in interest rates, a closer look at the figures is not altogether reassuring. Imports fell back in June from the high levels of May, but the reduction was mainly in capital goods. Although imports of capital goods have risen faster over the past year than manufactured goods overall, there is no evidence in the latest month's figures that industry is busy re-equipping itself to improve competitiveness in the future. Imports of consumer goods by contrast continued to rise.

Such observations need to be made. They ought not, however, to allow the professional pessimists on the Opposition benches and the pessimistic professionals among the economics community to predict that the economy is heading towards the rocks in a classic balance of payments crisis. In the first half of this year the current account of the balance of payments was in surplus by £37 million. After a year in which the price of oil halved, knocking several billion pounds off the value of our oil exports, that is not a bad performance. As recently as the Budget the Treasury was forecasting a deficit of £2.5 billion on current account which is now likely to prove too pessimistic.

If one compares today's balance of payments with previous periods when the economy was expanding rapidly such as the early 1970s the likely deficit is much smaller proportionately. Earnings from oil are still substantial. But the

pattern of demand is also very different. In previous periods of expansion the demand in the UK has tended to be high at the same time as demand worldwide. Today the UK is growing faster than its longer term growth record while the rest of the world is growing considerably more slowly. This means there is an added incentive for foreign exporters to sell into one of the few markets in the developed world which is growing rapidly.

Certainly the trade figures provide no room for complacency. Imports are one important indicator of potential inflationary pressure in the economy and they are growing fast. Pay is continuing to rise at a rate which is likely to spell trouble, as the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development pointed out last week. Tomorrow's figures for average earnings are awaited with some trepidation because of the threat to competitiveness. The Chancellor's decision to raise interest rates was clearly prudent.

It is a big jump from there, however, to believing that the later 1980s are going to be essentially the same as the later 1960s and early 1970s. Improvements in the underlying efficiency of the economy to supply the demands of consumers and investors are notoriously hard to measure. That does not mean that they do not exist. It is hard to believe that the rapid increase in productivity, the CBI's optimism and the weight of anecdotal evidence do not signify any improvement in the supply side of the economy.

Delay in treating leukaemia

From Dr John Goldman and others

Sir, We read with interest the letter in your columns (August 10) drawing attention to the shortage of suitably trained nursing staff in the cardiac surgery unit at the Brompton Hospital in London. Sadly this shortage of nursing staff is not restricted to just one medical speciality.

We are responsible for the operation of one of the major centres in this country specialising in the use of bone-marrow transplantation to treat patients with leukaemia and aplastic anaemia. The unit has an important reputation internationally. The clinical unit incorporates 10 single-bed rooms with specialised equipment to protect patients from infection. For the present only four of these beds are available for patient care because the Hammersmith Hospital is unable to recruit nurses to staff the remainder.

As a consequence our waiting list for patients with leukaemia

and aplastic anaemia requiring treatment by bone-marrow transplant now extends to almost one year. This means, of course, that patients will die of their disease before their date for transplant is reached. The major reason for this shortage is the impossibility of living in London on a standard nursing salary.

We strongly support the plea made by Brompton Hospital group in favour of urgent action to improve the level of remuneration for highly qualified nurses working in specialised areas.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN M. GOLDMAN,
LUCIO LUZZATTO,
JILL HOWS,
DAVID GALTON,
DANIEL CATOVSKY,
University of London,
Royal Postgraduate Medical School,
MRC Leukaemia Unit,
Department of Haematology,
Hammersmith Hospital,
Du Cane Road, W12,
August 12.

Fear for humanities

From Professor C. H. Lawrence

Sir, As much scientific research is capital-intensive, it would doubtless make good sense to concentrate it in a reduced number of selected institutions. What is worrying about the discussion of these proposals in your columns is that it appears to ignore the existence of the humanities.

What is to happen to, for instance, outstanding departments of history or classical archaeology or languages, which may contain international leaders in their fields, but find themselves in a university which, on account of its less distinguished science departments, is rated a second or third-level institution, suitable for teaching only?

Individuals may be able to

pursue their research and writing without impediment; but the loss of institutional status and the inability to get funding for research students will inexorably entail a rapid shrinkage in the number of able undergraduate applicants; and the ablest members of staff will quit or seek to move elsewhere.

A blanket grading of whole universities could thus destroy many centres of outstanding excellence in the arts, with catastrophic consequences for British scholarship. This can only be avoided if grading for research purposes is applied not to institutions but to subject areas within them.

Yours faithfully,
C. H. LAWRENCE,
11 Durham Road, SW20,
August 7.

Pub bomb cases

From Mr Christopher Price

Sir, Could I echo the plea of Mr Chris Mullin, MP, and Sir John Farr, MP (July 30) on the Birmingham explosives police enquiry. When the Home Office asked the late Detective Chief Superintendent Hensley to conduct a similar enquiry in 1974 into a possible miscarriage of justice in the Conflat murder case, I was interviewed by that officer as the MP who represented the three innocent young men involved.

Like the two MPs in the Birmingham explosives case, I formed the view that the principle preoccupation of the police was to discredit evidence which might call police officers' behaviour into question — a view subsequently substantiated by events.

The Hensley enquiry decided that there was no need for further investigation; when the matter came before the Appeal Court, the three men had their convictions quashed. Even after the young men were freed, there followed a rearguard action by senior officers of the Metropolitan Police who briefed counsel to seek to defend the behaviour of their officers at the subsequent enquiry by Sir Henry Fisher and consistently promoted the officer who had taken down the false confessions.

'Spycatcher' ruling

From Sir Henry Rowe, QC

Sir, Does not Sir Frederick Lawton (August 6) overlook the time factor? Even great chess players make unaccountable mistakes when in serious time trouble. Their lordships allowed themselves hardly any time to reach their decision.

We must await their reasons. But when they are published, perhaps they will explain why the supreme appellate tribunal could do what no court of first instance does: give a party more than he asked for.

Yours faithfully,
H. P. ROWE,
19 Paxton Gardens,
Woking,
Surrey,
August 6.

Bus delays

From Mr Brian L. de Robinson

Sir, Anne Sofer ("Hostages of the Hoppla", August 5) is right about two things. Buses do at times run late and a major contributory factor is often the density of road traffic.

However, her negative view of small buses in general and the C2 Camden Hoppla in particular is not universally shared. People like small buses, appreciating the better service which they can provide through increased frequency and their ability to travel on roads not open to larger vehicles.

Anne Sofer's own bus route has

been split because the longer route the greater the chance of delay from heavy traffic. But by buying a Travelcard she can not only avoid paying again when changing buses but can travel on the Underground as well for no additional cost. And London Regional Transport sets fares to cover costs after grants, not to drive passengers away. The result: last year passenger business rose 4.5 per cent.

Yours faithfully,
B. L. de ROBINSON
(Corporate Marketing Director),
London Regional Transport,
55 Broadway, SW1,
August 11.

Cigarettes and tax

From Mr A. D. C. Turner

Sir, The BMA calls (report, August 7) for a punitive tax increase on cigarettes. It is not the remit of any chancellor to impose fiscal punishment on a particular social lifestyle. Where would such a policy lead us — a huge tax increase on alcohol next? A sugar tax?

Consumers can these days "trade down" to any one of some 50 cheap brands of imported cigarettes, with English-sounding names, which flood in, mostly from West Germany. Selling at up to 30p less than UK domestically-manufactured cigarettes, these brands are without doubt costing us jobs.

Any increase in UK tobacco tax levels would merely exacerbate the trend, help German employment at our expense and do nothing to reduce the annual aggregate consumption of cigarettes in this country.

If the UK Government really intends to cooperate with the rest of the EEC in achieving any form of fiscal harmony by 1992, then to widen the present yawning gap in taxation levels between us and all but two of the members would be a particular folly.

Yours faithfully,
A. D. C. TURNER (Director,
Public Affairs),
Tobacco Advisory Council,
Glenn House, Stag Place, SW1,
August 7.

Reassessment of the IQ man

From Professor Ronald Fletcher

Sir, Whilst grateful for Stuart MacLure's attention (feature, August 5) to my defence of Sir Cyril Burt in *The Sunday Telegraph* (August 2), may I none the less make the plea that this should not be identified with anything called "the new right" — my concern being only with the truth and justice of the matter.

Mr MacLure rightly distinguishes the ideological controversy (which will "run and run") from the question of Burt's alleged "fraud". On the latter, the testimony levelled against Burt is demonstrably every bit as scandalous as anything of which Burt stood accused, being deliberately distorted and misleading. The case decidedly remains wide open. But two related considerations are important.

Twin studies aside, Burt contributed earlier and later work of the greatest value (*The Backward Child*, *The Young Delinquent*, *The Gifted Child*, etc.), all of which suffered from the taint of the "fraud" allegations. This

surely calls, now, for renewed recognition as, in itself, it has never been in question. But a more crucial point lies in the significance of Burt's position for the nature of our educational system.

Burt's conception of "equality" in education was one of consideration, not of uniform treatment. It called for careful selection followed by appropriately differential treatment — whether in one school or many. Is it not this central and essential task which our politically-despoiled educational system is signally failing to fulfil? And is not this the failure which is rendering it deeply unsatisfactory for individuals and society alike?

Whether one is "hereditarian" or "environmentalist", the task of educating the generation before us at any one time remains the same. The principle holds good, and is neither "right" nor "left" but a plain matter of both fact and justice alike. Is it not timely, then, that it should now be reconsidered?

Yours etc.
RONALD FLETCHER,
Cranmore,
Halesworth Road,
Reydon, Southwold, Suffolk,
August 6.

Coastguard ballot

From Lieutenant-Commander John A. Douglas, RN (ret'd)

Sir, I read with amazement and considerable concern that regular coastguards are considering the drastic step of withdrawing their services, albeit for 24 hours, as a result of the breakdown of pay negotiations. From my considerable experience of coastguards at all levels, including the coastguard auxiliary service, I am led to the conclusion that they must have been driven far beyond their normal limits of tolerance to even contemplate strike action.

The coastguard service is rather like an Army regiment in its loyalties and dedication to duty. There is no doubt whatsoever that the skills, expertise and responsibilities of individual coastguards have increased out of all recognition in normal years. Clearly this has not been properly recognised in terms of pay and proper levels of staffing in an emergency service providing 24-hours-a-day, seven-days-a-week cover for search and rescue at sea.

The mind boggles at the thought of what might happen if cover were withdrawn in the Dover Strait and a Herald of Free Enterprise-type incident occurred.

The time has come for a fresh appraisal of the situation by those who are directly involved in the current dispute. I, for one, am confident that the service is as good as heart as it always was, but a new initiative and common-sense are badly needed now to prevent a disastrous loss of public confidence in a service whose importance is often gravely misunderstood.

Yours etc.
JOHN DOUGLAS (former Chief Inspector, HM Coastguard),
26 The Mount,
Teignmouth, Devon,
August 2.

Broads priorities

From Mr Dominic Vlasto

Sir, Would that I were able to do anything but concur with the melancholy of the Director of the Norfolk Naturalists Trust (August 3).

The reality for even quite amateur conservationists is depressing. In the course of the last 20 or so years here I have watched helplessly as the water table has dropped by about 2-2½ft due to too deep dredging of dykes and too vigorous pumping away of water.

Woodland and bracken are now advancing by several feet a year. Open sedge fen has all but gone, and with it the milk parsley which supports the swallowtail butterfly population, both of which were abundant as recently as my childhood. Last year my house practically gave way from under me — it too had hitherto been buoyantly supported by a high water table.

I can repair the house, but I cannot bring back the swallowtail. We have waited in the hope that the new Broads Authority would finally grant more proper representation to those here — animal as well as human — with no commercial stake. It appears that yet again these hopes are ill-founded, and that the unique habitat here will continue to be squeezed on all sides.

Perhaps I need to cultivate the "faith that moves waters".

Yours faithfully,
DOMINIC VLASTO,
Long Gores,
Hickling, Norfolk,
August 3.

Clerical update

From the Rev Graham Cornock

Sir, With the coming of the ladies to the ranks of the clerical collar, I would suggest that the time has come for a clothing rethink.

The hope of God is declared to the world dressed in slippery plastic white over the miserable black of the Middle Ages.

Why we have to look so drab and unimaginative I do not know. After all, we aim to declare the glories of Him who made the world for our pleasure. We dress as if we are inviting people to come to a funeral.

May I, through your columns, invite clothes designers of imagination and joy to create something more suitable.

Yours faithfully,
GRAHAM CORNECK,
41 Creek Road,
Deptford, SE8.

ON THIS DAY

AUGUST 12 1939

It took the reality of war in September to concentrate the people's minds on air-raid precautions. Within a year more than a million were engaged in passive defence.

Lessons of the Black-out

It was announced beforehand that the first large-scale black-out to be tried in this country was mainly intended to enable the R.A.F. to report on the deficiencies of the measures taken to extinguish or obscure lighting which might be useful to a raiding air force. All that can be said after the experience is that the reports are likely to be very bulky. Our Aeronautical Correspondent, who examined the whole scene from a magnificently navigated Wellington bomber, reports that he would not have had the slightest difficulty in detecting any target he had been asked to detect. In particular he states that he could fix with certainty two of the main line railway stations, and with extraordinary probability all the others. There is good excuse for the railway companies, who had promised cooperation only to an extent which would not interfere with essential services. But what is to be said of the large motor factory near London which appeared never to have heard of the black-out, of the occasional motorists who travelled with headlights blazing as usual, and of the lighted windows which were still to be seen here and there in private houses?

Newbury had made a fair pretence of darkening itself. It was not enough to wipe it off the map, and the railway station with a line of signal lights beyond it gave us our guide on to the target on the racecourse. Then we turned for the rest of our trials. Motor-car headlights showed us the road to Reading. From Reading we could see the glow of London.

BOTH SIDES OF RIVER

In a quarter of an hour the glow resolved itself into patches and strings of bright lights varied by areas of complete darkness where a whole borough had effaced itself or a park lay empty and black. One saw the strange sight of whole chimneys of lights snuffed out as though a huge blanket had been dropped on them. Down the river we went, and back we came to find London still plentifully sprinkled with lights. Up river we sailed as far as Chelsea. The lights were still there on both sides of the river — street lights where only half the lamps had been "doused", window lights glowing and unashamed, advertisement lights red and bright yellow, pools of diffused light through the glass roofs of stations, groups of strong lights in shunting yards, glare from a gasworks and rows of lighted windows at a motor-car factory.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE TIMES

Sir, — As one who played a part, though a very small one, in last night's black-out, I would like to say how profoundly it moved at any rate one observer. London itself was beautiful in the silent hours of the very early morning, and in the moonlight great buildings towered in a splendour that faded away in the garish light of street lamps and electric signs.

If the black-out was not, technically, a complete success, it was surely not the fault of the workers, nor can it have been due to any deliberate obstruction by the public. But absentmindedness there must have been. How can one account otherwise for the mellow light, from the basement of the War Office itself, that streamed vertically upwards into the potentially hostile sky?

Your obedient servant,
EDWARD BACH.
Stone House,
Bishopgate, E.C.2, Aug. 11.

COURT AND SOCIAL

The Princess of Wales, President of the Barnardo's, will attend an afternoon event at Levens Hall, Kendal, in aid of the charity on September 10. The Princess of Wales will visit Lingfield Hospital School, Lingfield, Surrey, on September 22.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Thomas Bewick, engraver, Newcastle, 1753; George IV, reigned 1820-30, London, 1762; Robert Southey, Bristol, 1774; Cecil B. de Mille, film producer, Ashfield, Massachusetts, 1881; Erwin Schrödinger, physicist, Nobel laureate 1933, Vienna, 1887.

DEATHS: Nahum Tate, poet laureate 1692-1715, London, 1715; Robert Stewart, Viscount Castlereagh, statesman, committed suicide, North Cray Place, Kent, 1822; William Blake, London, 1827; George Stephenson, builder of The Rocket, Tipton, Derbyshire, 1848; Sir William Jackson Hooker, Director of the Royal Botanical Gardens, 1861-63, London, 1865; James Lowell, poet and diplomat, Cambridge, Massachusetts, 1891; Arthur Griffith, president of Sinn Féin 1910-17, Dublin, 1922; Leo Janáček, Bohemian composer, Czechoslovakia, 1928; Thomas Mann, novelist, Zurich, 1955; Ian Fleming, creator of James Bond, Canterbury, 1964.

Queen Beatrix leaves hospital

Queen Beatrix of the Netherlands returned home yesterday after a six-day stay in hospital, where she was recovering from viral meningitis caught during a holiday in France.

The Queen, who is 49, will need several more weeks of rest to recover fully, an official statement said.

Birthdays today

Sir Humphrey Atkins, (life peer), former MP, 65; Dame Frances Clode, former chairman, WRVS, 84; Air Marshal Sir Maurice Heath, 78; Lord Brockle, 82; General Sir Patrick Howard-Dobson, 66; Sir Anthony Jolliffe, former Lord Mayor of London, 49; Mr Norris McWhirter, founder editor, Guinness Book of Records, 62; Sir Robin Nicholson, metallurgist, 53; Baroness Phillips, 77; Lord Renton, QC, 79; Lord Rhodes, 92; Mr Peter West, sports commentator, 67.

Science report

Space radar finds rivers in the desert

By Thomas Land

Seven experimental wells sunk in one of the driest regions on earth, have yielded a rich supply of water.

The drilling was part of a series of investigations confirming the usefulness of space-borne radar analysis, a technology that promises to enrich man's understanding of the deserts as well as the oceans.

Egypt's ancient river beds, also identified recently beneath the eastern Sahara by radar images obtained from space, are already yielding subterranean water to colonize the land.

The radar techniques have also proved their usefulness in mapping the Antarctic, and the European Space Agency, Canada and Japan are now preparing to join the United States and the Soviet Union in launching more advanced space vehicles for remote sensing.

They will concentrate on collecting more data about the oceans. But the designs build on the success of radar surveillance in the Sahara where it has emerged as a potent tool for agricultural development.

Each of the seven experimental wells drilled by the Egyptians in the Selima Sand Sheet, part of the almost entirely uninhabited desert area near the Sudanese border, has yielded a rich water supply. The drilling was part of a long series of investigations that confirmed the radar mapping of the region by equipment aboard the second flight of the American space shuttle Columbia in November 1981.

The Columbia flight produced a set of images depicting the earth beneath its surface. They identified an unknown world of subterranean river beds some 100m as wide as the Nile and perhaps 40 million years old - hidden by sand. The radar even picked out abandoned Stone Age settlements.

The discovery was greeted with surprise and scepticism, for the region is one of the driest and most forbidding expanses on earth.

Specialists from Egypt and the United States, representing the geological surveys of both countries, various universities and the makers of

Columbia's radar equipment, eventually confirmed the sky-eye's findings after exploring the area on foot.

Dr Gerry Schaber, a distinguished American geologist, reported in the scientific press at the time that the radar had penetrated the surface "through at least one meter in the sand sheets and perhaps several meters through active dune fields". The practical implications of that discovery are now being explored. They are enormous for navigation and shipping as well as agriculture.

Drilling conducted on the basis of the radar map of the region has tapped a subterranean water supply which is believed to be sufficient to sustain irrigated agriculture over 121,500 hectares. The region is rich in alluvium - once-fertile soil that can be made to work again. An experimental farm is already blooming, and subsequent space surveys have conducted further radar mapping exercises over Egypt.

Radar works best in regions free of cover, such as the Sahara, the oceans and the ice-bound poles.

Dr David Drewry, of the Scott Polar Research Institute at Cambridge, has used radar in mapping much of the Antarctic. He can differentiate between sedimentary and igneous rocks - a matter of considerable importance to prospectors and geologists.

Canada intends to launch a radar-equipped satellite soon primarily to monitor ice movements in the Arctic. Lured by the promise of valuable knowledge about the oceans, several other countries are also developing radar remote-sensing techniques in a big way to facilitate space mapping for a wide variety of purposes.

Equipment still on the drawing board will study the major ocean currents, measure the height of waves and track the speed and directions of winds, enabling analysts to predict their behaviour with dependable accuracy.

Such information will, in turn, help shipping and oil companies, airlines and fishermen to reduce accidents at sea. It will also contribute to man's understanding of the influence of the oceans over the earth's weather systems.

Notice to purchasers of baths made by Spring Bathrooms between August 1986 and May 1987:

During this period about 3,500 baths, labelled and described as being made by "ICI Perspex" and with a 20 year guarantee, were, in fact, constructed from extruded material not made by ICI which does not comply with the minimum British Standard BS4505 for baths. These baths, forming part of a production run were made and sold by Ram Bathrooms plc who trade as Spring Bathrooms. "Perspex" acrylic sheet manufactured by ICI for bath manufacture does comply with the British Standard.

ICI has obtained judgment against Ram Bathrooms plc from the High Court in London prohibiting Ram from selling any more wrongly labelled baths. ICI has also managed to trace almost 500 of those baths already sold but unfortunately, despite ICI's best efforts, the balance of the wrongly labelled baths remain untraced and it may be that one of them is installed in your bathroom.

Baths manufactured from the extruded material can be identified by inspection of the edge of the bath: they have an extra intermediate layer between the coloured acrylic face and the white fibreglass reinforcement, and the intermediate layer usually appears dark. Baths manufactured from "Perspex" have no such intermediate layer.

If you bought a Spring Bathrooms bath which was labelled as being made by "ICI Perspex", and which you believe to have been wrongly labelled, you are entitled to contact Ram Bathrooms plc and/or your bath supplier and ask for a bath made from genuine "Perspex" to be provided for you.

RHS Summer Show

Sweet scents in Westminster

By Alan Toogood, Horticulture Correspondent

Scent from sweet peas greets visitors to the Royal Horticultural Society's summer flower show, which opened yesterday in Westminster.

Varieties with the strongest scent, the blue and lavender shades, including "Percy Thrower", "Southampton" and "Honeydew", are being featured by W G and D M Maishman, of Stowmarket, Suffolk. The exhibit gained a silver-gilt flora medal.

An exhibit of Princess Lilies (hybrid alstroemerias), from Peter J Smith, of Ashington, Sussex, shows an increased colour range - every colour is now available. Also, some of the latest varieties, like "Butterscotch" (yellow and buff shades) and "Libelle" (pale pink and yellow) have much larger flowers, almost the size of true lilies. This exhibit was also awarded a silver-gilt flora medal.

The RHS gladiolus competition is well supported. Stephen Moorhouse, of London, has gained the Foremark challenge cup for 12 varieties.

The best spike of a large-flowered variety is the pure white "Amsterdam", shown by T N Fawcett, of Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire; and the best spike of a small-flowered variety is brilliant vermilion "Red Bantam", exhibited by Mrs J E Sudell, of Canterbury, Kent.

Mr and Mrs W H Horner, of London, have won the three-varieties class in the RHS heather competition, their exhibit including fine long spikes of the rose-red *Erica cinerea* "Rosabella".

The Saintpaulia and Houseplant Society's competition is also being held. The best houseplant in the show is *Corynephorus laevigatus*, shown by R Gilbert, of London. This rubber-plant-like shrub from New Zealand has glossy deep green leaves.

The best saintpaulia (African violet) in the show is "Roseberry", with large, cream-edged leaves and purplish-pink flowers, exhibited by Mrs F Vivian, of London.

Also taking place is the National Begonia Society's show. Awards are as follows: the Blackmore and Langdon challenge cup, D Coates; the Downson cup, R Barrett; the Anonymous cup for best pot of tuberous double begonia, B Simmons (variety "Tahiti", orange); the Calvea cup for 12 cut blooms, J Griffin, who also won the NBS bronze medal for best cut bloom (coral-pink "Jenny Barclay"); the Cassella challenge trophy for three pots, Mrs J Dean (varieties "Roy Hardy" and "Sugar Candy").

Major awards in the British Fuchsia Society's show are: Coronation cup for best exhibit in show, F Snelling, of Basildon, Essex (showing a large fax-trained fuchsia); the Ken Sharp trophy, L Hedges, of Windsor, Berkshire (for a large standard fuchsia); the Barnes cup for the affiliated societies class, the Windsor Chrysanthemum and Pelargonium Society; the Blake challenge trophy for seven plants, E W Card, of Kent; the Sir Ralph Newman cup for five plants, R S Clarke, of Maidenhead, Berkshire; and the beginners' and novices' cups, M Compton, of Maidenhead.

The committees have awarded the first class certificate to the following plants: *Erythrina cristina-galli*, greenhouse plant with deep crimson flowers, exhibited by the Oxford Botanic Garden; *Clematis viticella* "Purpurea Plena Elegans", double purple flowers, exhibited by G S Thomas, of Horsell, Surrey; and *Hamelia elegans*, greenhouse plant with red flowers and aromatic foliage, shown by the curator, Chelsea Physic Garden, London.

The show is open today from 10 am to 5 pm.



Lucy Gutteridge and Denis Lawson who will star in the Royal Theatre's new opening production of *The Importance of Being Earnest* (Photograph: Denzil McNeelane)

Earnest hopes for theatre

By Ruth Gledhill

A West End theatre once used for transvestite "drag" reviews, the controversial *Oh Calcutta* and for television's *This is Your Life* is to re-open next month with a series of six week productions of late 19th century and 20th century plays.

The Royal Theatre, built in 1960 on the site of the old Stoll Theatre, is to open on September 7 with *The Importance of Being Earnest*, directed by Donald Sinden.

Denis Lawson, who will star as Algernon opposite Lucy Gutteridge as Cecily, said: "I

have done this play once before, in an awful production at Farnham. It has got to be the one of the most perfectly written plays in the English language."

Mr Martin Tickner, an administrative director of the new £200,000 Royal Theatre Company, said: "Series of short runs in the West End are very rare. Actors do not like to commit themselves for too long. We hope to attract people who are maybe between jobs."

The project marks a return to live theatre for Mr Tickner, a well-known producer in the

1960s who left the stage to run London Theatre Programmes for 11 years.

He hopes the short-run programme will attract stars of international renown and listed Jane Asher, Simon Cadell, Judi Dench, Diana Rigg and Adam Faith as actors and actresses who have already agreed to appear.

"It is a modern but a lovely theatre. Although it has 1,000 seats it has an intimate feeling. There is no seat with a restricted view and you do not get instant vertigo if you are watching from the top of the dress circle."

Forthcoming marriages

M J-M. Dangas and Miss T.F.E. Moon. The engagement is announced between Jean-Marc, younger son of late M André Dangas, and of Mme Dangas, of La Rochelle, France, and Tamsin, only daughter of Dr C.A.L. Moon, of Redruth, Cornwall, and Mrs Elizabeth Whitingham, of Winchester, Hampshire.

Mr J.W. Hadow and Miss S.F. Naylor. The engagement is announced between John Wigram, elder son of Major and Mrs E.A. Hadow, of Chudleigh, Devon, and Susan Frances, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs F.W. Naylor, of Limsfield, Surrey.

Lieutenant W.H. McKie and Miss R.E. Thomas. The engagement is announced between William Hugh McKie, The Argyle and Sutherland Highlanders, elder son of Mr and Mrs W.C.P. McKie, of Costa Teguis, Lanzarote, and Rebecca Elizabeth, elder daughter of Mr J.B. Thomas, and Mrs D.J. Tatham, of St Austell, Cornwall.

Mr N. Mitchell and Miss J.D. Thexton. The engagement is announced between Nigel, son of Mr D.K. Mitchell, of Aston Clinton, Buckinghamshire, and Mrs R. Mitchell, of Wendover, Buckinghamshire, and Joanne, daughter of Mr and Mrs J.W. Thexton, of Gosforth, Newcastle upon Tyne and Richmond, Surrey.

Mr H.W.H. Sants and Miss C.J. Mackenzie. The engagement is announced between Hector, son of Mr and Mrs John Sants, of Kilfin, Perthshire, and Caroline, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Kenneth Mackenzie, of Sherborne St John, Hampshire.

Mr R.S.J. Seager and Miss S.C. Webb-Bowen. The engagement is announced between Rupert, elder son of Mr G. Seager, of India, and Mrs J. Seager, of India, and Sue, second daughter of Brigadier and Mrs R.L. Stonham, of London.

Captain G.G.E. Stibbe and Miss G.L.R. Stephens. The engagement is announced between Giles Grant Edward Stibbe, The Life Guards, elder son of Mr and Mrs Philip Stibbe, Foundry House, Lettistown, Norfolk, and Cecily Isobel Rich, daughter of Mr and Mrs Brian Stephens, Tollgate House, Wing, Buckinghamshire.

Mr C. Warren-Green and Miss C. Thompson. The engagement is announced between Christopher, son of Mrs J. Warren-Green and the late Mr T. Warren-Green, of Cheltenham, and Catherine, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs H. Thompson, of Purley, Surrey.

Mr W.J.T. Bagnall and Miss C.F. Garvia. The marriage took place in Maplewood, New Jersey, on Saturday, August 8, 1987, between Mr William James Tyrone Bagnall, only son of Lady Bagnall, of Great Cheverell, Wiltshire, and the late Sir Arthur Bagnall, and Miss Cecilia Frances Garvia, eldest daughter of Mrs F.C. Garvia, of Maplewood, New Jersey, and Mr F.C. Garvia, of Lancaster, Pennsylvania.

Mr C.H.S.J. Carey and Mrs S.N. Harmond. A service of blessing was held at St David's Church, Trostre, Gwent, on Saturday, August 8, after the marriage between Mr Charles Carey, son of Mr and Mrs H.L.S.J. Carey, of Fairford, Gloucestershire, and

Mrs Sika Harmond, daughter of Mr and Mrs M.B. Noggle, of Maryland, U.S.A.

Mr A.N.R. Fleming and Miss L.J. May Somerville. The marriage took place on Saturday, July 18, at St Peter's Church, Lamerion, Devon. The Rev Raymond Chudley and the Rev John Hoskyns officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Miss Sarah Fleming, Jeanne and Julia Irvine, Emma Tuckett and Serena Williams. Mr Jeremy Upton was best man.

A reception was held at the bride's home and the honeymoon is being spent in Kashmir.

Mr N.L.J. Gray and Miss J.M. Bilton. The marriage took place on Friday, August 7, 1987, at St Peter's Church, Belmont Village, Lancashire.

Mr Nigel Lawrence John Grundy, younger son of Mr and Mrs D.J. Grundy, and Miss Julie Marie Williamson, elder daughter of Mr B. Billington and Mrs E. Capper. Captain R.P. Prichard and Miss C.A. Slessor. The marriage took place on Saturday, August 8, at All Saints Church, Oxford.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Louise and Chloe Slessor, Annabel and Charlotte Price, Alice Girardot, Chloe Shann and Emma Woolf. Mr Russell Rennie was best man.

OBITUARY

MR UYS KRIGE

Faithful portrayal of Afrikanerdom

Mr Uys Krige, South African playwright, short-story writer and poet, died on August 10. He was 77.

Krige made his name through the honesty of his portrayal of his fellow Afrikaners, and his powerful evocation of the marvellous and menacing landscapes of his country.

But he was also known for his strenuous and influential efforts to break the English-Afrikaans language barrier which divided South Africa; he was unique in that he established a high reputation in both languages.

Uys Krige was born at Swellendam, Cape Province, on February 4, 1910. After studying law at Stellenbosch University he became a reporter on the *Rand Daily Mail*, then freelance in France and Spain.

In 1936 he returned to Cape Town, to the Afrikaans newspaper *Die Suiderskerk*, and when war broke out became a war correspondent. He was taken prisoner, escaped and wrote a vivid account of the experience in *The Way Out*.

Back in Johannesburg after the war he founded the paper *Vandag (Today)*, which he edited.

Before the war Krige had written in Afrikaans only. Later, though all his poems were in Afrikaans, some plays



His finest achievement is generally considered to be the play *The Two Lamps* (1964), versions of which exist in both languages, about a father/son conflict and about the destructive powers of rigorous Calvinism.

His poetry is graceful and is interesting because it develops and reveals an insatiable curiosity about different kinds of human experience. There are translations of some of it in *The Penguin Book of South African Verse* (1968).

Krige was an indefatigable and successful translator into Afrikaans: his *Yerma* (Lorca's play), of 1963, and his *Twelfth Night* (produced in Transvaal in the mid-1960s) were reckoned brilliant and faithful to the spirit of the originals. He also edited an influential anthology of Spanish-American poetry in Afrikaans.

His collections of stories in English were *The Dream and the Desert* (1953) and *Orphan of the Desert* (1967). Two stories especially valued are "The Coffin", about an Afrikaner awaiting death with equanimity, and the much more humorous "The Dream", a nostalgic account of life in South Africa in the years when Krige was growing up.

He married, in 1937, Lydia Pinduck, with whom he had two children.

MR GEORGIOS ATHANASIADIS-NOVAS

Mr Georgios Athanasiadis-Novas, politician and refreshing pastoral poet, who became Prime Minister for 33 days during a fateful period of Greek history, died in Athens on August 10. He was 94.

As president of the Greek Parliament on July 15, 1965, he was King Constantine's first choice as head of a cabinet of Centre Union dissidents who had agreed to help the king after his Homeric clash with his Prime Minister, George Papandreu, leader of the Centre Union Party.

During his brief tenure, Athanasiadis-Novas' cabinet had to confront a spate of street rioting and protests by supporters of the deposed Prime Minister, but eventually managed to restore public order.

His cabinet failed to obtain a vote of confidence in Parliament, but as further defections from the Centre Union swelled the ranks of the dissidents, a viable government was set up in which Athanasiadis-Novas served as Deputy Prime Minister and which had the support of the conservative opposition.

The split in the Centre Union party was later seen as having sown the seeds of the political upheaval that eventually led to the military coup in 1967.

Georgios Athanasiadis-Novas was born on February 9, 1893, in the township of Nafpaktos, in the Gulf of Corinth. He graduated in law at Athens University in 1917.

He became Greek war correspondent in the Asia Minor campaign between 1919 and 1922.

In 1920, under the pseudonym George Athanas, he published his first collection of poems, and his talent as a poet was soon widely acclaimed. He since published six more collections of poetry, one novel and two books of short stories.

He joined Greek politics in 1926 and was elected to Parliament as a member of the Free-Thinkers Party for his native constituency. In the elections of 1928, however, his party failed and he joined the Progressive Party. He was re-elected deputy in 1932 and 1936.

During the Metaxas dictatorship from 1936 to 1940 he lived abroad, mostly in Italy. But he remained in his native town throughout the German occupation between 1940 and 1944 when the communists burnt down his ancestral home, destroying a valuable library and several unpublished manuscripts.

Athanasiadis-Novas suffered from shock and went to

live in Italy which was a second home to him.

In 1949, he joined the Liberal Party and was re-elected to Parliament in 1950 and in subsequent elections. He served several times as Minister of Education and as Minister-in-charge of the Prime Minister's office.

In 1961, the Liberals joined the Centre Union under Mr Papandreu who, after a sweeping election victory in 1964, nominated Athanasiadis-Novas President of Parliament. He held this post (along with the coveted chairmanship of the Academy of Athens) when the king asked him to form a government to succeed Mr Papandreu.

After his government's failure in Parliament, he was appointed Deputy Prime Minister of the equally luckless Tsirimos cabinet, and in September 1965, Deputy Premier of the Stefanopoulos government, which remained in office on a slim majority for 17 months.

After the military takeover, Athanasiadis-Novas withdrew from the political scene and lived in retirement until his death.

He is survived by his wife, Maria Balgar, daughter of Rome's famous Greek jeweller. There were no children of the marriage.

CARDINAL PATRICK O'BOYLE

Cardinal Patrick O'Boyle, first Roman Catholic archbishop of Washington, who cast out racial segregation from the new diocese's Catholic schools before it became the norm further afield, died on August 10. He was 91.

Patrick Aloysius O'Boyle was born at Scranton, Pennsylvania, on July 18, 1896, the son of Irish immigrant parents.

The young O'Boyle delivered newspapers before getting a job in an office, working for a pittance. He spent his high school holidays on farms and in textile mills.

He then went to St Thomas' College (now, Scranton University) from where he graduated in 1917. He trained for the priesthood at St Joseph's Seminary in Yonkers, New York, and was ordained in the city's St Patrick's Cathedral in 1921.

He served at St Columba's, New York, for the next five years. From the outset, his

incumbency was marked by his active concern about urban problems and racial discrimination.

During the war he was appointed executive director of the National Catholic War Relief Services, organizing the distribution of food and clothing to war ravaged Europe and Asia.

He was consecrated Washington's first archbishop in January 1948, by-passing the usual stepping-stone of bishopric - when the new diocese was hived off from the Baltimore archdiocese.

He was now in a position to introduce into its Catholic schools the policy of desegregation dear to his heart. He acted swiftly, and two years later blacks and whites were side by side in the same classrooms.

It was a bold and pioneering step, preceding by four years the Supreme Court's ruling in 1954 which outlawed throughout the nation's schools

segregation on racial grounds. Before delivering its judgment the court had sought O'Boyle's guidance.

O'Boyle was made a cardinal by Pope Paul VI in 1967. In the affairs of his church he was staunchly conservative, and an outspoken defender of its teaching on birth control in particular. Opposition, he declared, was unthinkable, and he disciplined dissenting priests in his charge.

He retired in 1973 and made Washington his home. He will be the first to be laid to rest in the new crypt, at the city's St Matthew's Cathedral, which was built for the diocese's archbishops.

MR LAWRENCE TURNBULL

Mr Lawrence W. Turnbull, who has died aged 66, held what is in the Army the rare award of the Conspicuous Gallantry Medal, normally reserved for the Navy and RAF.

The award marked his "great coolness" during the airborne Rhine crossing shortly before the end of the war in Europe in 1945 when he was a squadron sergeant-major in the Glider Pilot Regiment, piloting a Horsa glider.

A tow rope struck his glider and carried away much of its nose. Using the shattered remnants of his control column, he righted the glider, which had turned on its back, and was under fire from anti-aircraft guns. The infantry platoon aboard landed safely.

Previously, during the invasion of Sicily, when his glider was forced down by AA fire, Turnbull, although wounded, made a successful landing on the sea.

Havildar Nandlal Thapa, the only Gurkha to hold the George Cross, died on June 27. He was 84.

He was awarded the Empire Gallantry Medal (later translated into the George Cross) for his action in the Quetta earthquake in 1935. Sent with his battalion to rescue survivors while minor earthquake shocks were still occurring, Nandlal Thapa "displayed conspicuous courage in entering tottering buildings, and rescued 10 people alive at considerable risk to himself".

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, DEATHS

Mr and Mrs J. H. Smith announce the birth of a son, John, on August 10, 1987.

Mr and Mrs R. J. Brown announce the birth of a daughter, Sarah, on August 11, 1987.

Mr and Mrs T. G. White announce the birth of a son, Thomas, on August 12, 1987.

Mr and Mrs P. K. Green announce the birth of a daughter, Patricia, on August 13, 1987.

Mr and Mrs M. L. Black announce the birth of a son, Michael, on August 14, 1987.

Mr and Mrs N. O. Grey announce the birth of a daughter, Nicola, on August 15, 1987.

Mr and Mrs A. S. Brown announce the birth of a son, Alexander, on August 16, 1987.

Mr and Mrs C. D. White announce the birth of a daughter, Catherine, on August 17, 1987.

Mr and Mrs F. G. Black announce the birth of a son, Frederick, on August 18, 1987.

Mr and Mrs H. J. Grey announce the birth of a daughter, Helen, on August 19, 1987.

Mr and Mrs I. K. Brown announce the birth of a son, Ian, on August 20, 1987.

Mr and Mrs L. M. White announce the birth of a daughter, Lucy, on August 21, 1987.

Mr and Mrs O. N. Black announce the birth of a son, Oliver, on August 22, 1987.

Mr and Mrs P. Q. Grey announce the birth of a daughter, Philippa, on August 23, 1987.

Mr and Mrs R. S. Brown announce the birth of a son, Robert, on August 24, 1987.

Mr and Mrs T. U. White announce the birth of a daughter, Theresa, on August 25, 1987.

Mr and Mrs V. W. Black announce the birth of a son, Victor, on August 26, 1987.

Mr and Mrs X. Y. Grey announce the birth of a daughter, Xenia, on August 27, 1987.

Mr and Mrs Z. A. Brown announce the birth of a son, Zachary, on August 28, 1987.

Mr and Mrs B. C. White announce the birth of a daughter, Barbara, on August 29, 1987.

Mr and Mrs D. E. Black announce the birth of a son, David, on August 30, 1987.

Mr and Mrs F. H. Grey announce the birth of a daughter, Frances, on August 31, 1987.

WEDNESDAY PAGE

The society that wants to pump sex offenders full of drugs and cage them up is also the main cause of many people re-offending

The ever-growing controversy over sex offenders, which has taken up so many columns in newspapers over the past few years, is an argument that I feel is very one-sided. Possibly this is because former offenders are afraid to say too much, in case the finger of society is pointed at them once more, after so many have suffered, along with their families, the hell of public scorn.

As an ex-offender I am acutely aware that the society that wants to cut off our testicles and to carve up our brains, to pump us full of drugs and keep us caged up like animals for life, is also the main cause of many people re-offending.

I recently appeared on the BBC Manchester television programme *BBC Tackles*. My reason for appearing was to attempt to let people see that sex offenders are human beings who require, and are forbidden, help to come to terms with their maladjustments.

I, for my first offence, was put in prison for three years. I am quite happy

to say I deserved this, if that is the law of the land. I do not condone sex offences against the young, but once I put my hands up and was sent "down", where was the help that I needed? I am intelligent enough to know that I had a problem, a bad one that had grown with me since my adolescence. When I actually asked for help in prison I was told it wasn't there for people like me. By this time that unless you were serving a life sentence there was little chance of treatment in prison.

On leaving prison, one year ago this month, it was agreed that I should move to a new city, the idea being that one can "start anew". I am not married and so was lucky that I did not have to consider the effect of such a move on a wife and family. I was placed in bed and breakfast accommodation (there are few purpose-built hostels for ex-offenders which will take ex-sex offenders), and told that, because of my crime, I was almost unemployable. Even if I was to get to the stage of "interview" I had, by law, to tell

a panel of strangers that I had been a sex offender and had been sent to prison. Irrespective of one's ability to actually perform the job, one is hardly likely to obtain the post. So, society places the former offender in a very vulnerable situation, alone in a strange place, with no security and far too often no one to turn to for companionship and support. Is it surprising that the individual frequently re-offends?

I know from personal experience that the released offender has to be strong. Amid the fears, loneliness and self-hate, he has to try and fight like hell to obtain any form of help. I knew that I needed psychotherapy — in fact a report to the court actually said as much.

Once out of prison I sought help, but no one seemed to know how, or whether, it was there to be had. My probation officer was extremely sympathetic but knew of no way of my obtaining help,

FIRST PERSON

John Pinnock

other than to see my local GP. This I did, to be told that he did not hold out much hope for me. I felt I was wasting my time. After 10 months I found a GP who referred me to a psychotherapist who specializes in sex offenders, and for the past few months I have been receiving therapy. For the first time in my life I have come to terms with my sexual orientation and at last I am beginning to be able to face up to the person I hated most, me.

How many former offenders have my tenacity? How many have actually reached the stage of seeking help and have been set back by the lack of assistance, assistance that the society that hates and fears them will not offer?

Will my sexuality remain a problem? I actually asked my therapist that question, and the answer is that it could. I am aware that for the rest of my life, because of my predilection, I will have to remain

celibate, or risk mentally hurting another human being, or returning to prison. Self-control has to be self-imposed; sex offenders might find this easier if the prison system encompassed a learning process instead of simply locking them away, then throwing them out again even more mixed-up and angry than before.

Without the aid of psychotherapy I could never have been able to face reality or to see that there might be a life after the hell of realization. Then, and only then, can one start to build up self-esteem and begin to think about giving again to the society that wants you shut away and retarded.

Most offenders are already frightened by their needs and actions, but in the present climate, to whom can they turn? The sex offender is not able to "cry for help" without putting his head on the block and risking his profession, his family and his liberty. Doctors, social workers and probation officers are all obliged to inform the police, although whether they do so or not is up to them.

And in prison the offender is unlikely to find the help he needs.

So, lock them away for life? I have heard it said: it was said to me in a BBC hospital suite in Manchester. Drug treatment? It was never offered to me, and I thank God for that. The concept of a permanent state of drug dependency sends shivers through me. The average sex offender needs help, not killing.

If society requires its pound of flesh, help the offender to realize the seriousness of his actions. Assist him in discovering why he acts as he does. Allow him the right to come to terms with himself.

Most adults in this country know a child sex offender, whether they are conscious of it or not. And how many are hiding an offender because they are afraid of the law? Unless we are prepared to talk about this subject and seek a way of reducing the fear of prison as an antidote, we are going to get the sex offenders we deserve.

Forsaking all others?

Why has fidelity become an unsuitable subject for discussion?

Earlier this year, the Institute of Marital Studies came up with what it believed was a good idea. It was based on the observation that, before the advent of Aids, unfaithfulness could be accommodated in some marriages, and could even contribute to their equilibrium. Now people were fearful of new sexual encounters, and were looking for ways to curb their infidelities. The institute hit on the idea of putting on a course, advertising it nationally to help them do it, and then waiting for the floodgates to open.

Only 20 people responded, and only one sent in the £25 to cover the first evening meetings. Further publicity through 44 health centres, and an alternative offer of Saturday sessions, brought no further response. The experts might have been excused by the project, but the public remained noticeably unmoved.

Paul Pengelly, one of the marital therapists who devised the course, is still pondering why. He sent questionnaires to the 20 respondents in the hope of finding some answers, but the five who replied gave few clues. Two mentioned cost and time. Both had been attracted to the course for specific reasons: one was "seeking the will to be faithful to my wife and therefore save the marriage", while the other wanted to understand the behaviour of her "philandering" husband.

Only one person agreed that Aids had contributed to his interest. He was the only respondent to send in his fee, and though his current, faithful relationship dated from before the main publicity campaign on the disease, he had discussed the subject with past and present partners.

Establishments such as the IMS like to see themselves as being sensitive to personal issues and in touch with

public attitudes. So where did they go wrong?

Pengelly is convinced that there is a swing towards the conservation of marriage. Not only is the institute having to cope with a waiting list for the first time in years, but the National Marriage Guidance Council is seeing more couples anxious to save their marriages.

The institute's abortive course was not intended to work in the way that counselling does. It was hoped that, through group discussion, a picture would emerge of the heightened pressure to maintain sexual faithfulness. The aim was to find a middle ground between those retreating behind Victorian values and anti-sex educators who neglect the implications of Aids in personal relationships.

What, for instance, happens to the marriage where one partner's infidelity has been tacitly accepted but never referred to? How is a partner who indulged in occasional infidelity going to adjust to new restraints? Why is staying faithful, or even the idea of it, a great strain for some people?

But exploring these questions among a group of strangers is a tall order. "It is understandable that people should be reluctant to confront their own feelings on the taboo areas of sex, disease and death," Pengelly says, putting it mildly.

Perhaps the only answer is for Pengelly to find some fellow marital therapists and invite them to be the clients on his course.

Helen Franks

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Susan Forbes is the first airwoman to win the Queen's Medal — but are her wings clipped?

Tops in swimming, tops in hockey and lacrosse, tops, even, in engineering: if ever a girl was made to come first, she is Susan Elizabeth Forbes, the wholesome embodiment of the competitive spirit.

Last month she became, at 23, the first woman officer ever to win the 35-year-old Queen's Medal Award, given to the Royal Air Force's most outstanding cadet. It was a tribute to her peerless performance on the officer training course at Cranwell RAF college.

Few would disagree with the Duchess of Kent, who presented the medal, that Forbes' achievement in beating around 1,000 potential rivals, most of them men, was "marvellous, really marvellous". For the modestly ecstatic Forbes, the medal is still further proof that there is no sexism left in the airforce. "I chose the RAF because it always seemed very fair towards females," she says. "A female can be posted for most jobs just as happily as a male."

Of course, she says, women are still not allowed certain jobs in the force — as pilots, navigators, or regimental officers, "because they're frontline" — but she is not the sort to complain about a regulation. "I would say that there are very good reasons why women are not allowed to fly aeroplanes," she says, beaming with the good sense of it



Doing her duty: Susan Forbes, in charge of communications at the RAF base at Brize Norton in Oxfordshire

all. "It costs millions to train a pilot, and women can leave at any time if they get married or get pregnant — it's just not financially viable."

True, she is not about to do either of these things, and she would love to have trained as a pilot, but she is a tribute to her training course — she has not a word of criticism for the system which made her. The reluctance of the armed forces to place women in the front line impresses her as a nice piece of courtesy from men who think that the battlefield ground is no place for a woman, or "females" as they

are known at the Brize Norton airbase outside Oxford, where she is Officer Commanding Ground Radio Flight, in charge of all the radar, telephone and radio on the base, and of the 50 staff who maintain and operate communications.

She is fully aware that if war broke out she would be involved in killing people, albeit at a seemingly distance, but this appeals to her sense of duty. "Of course, it would be very nice if we all loved each other," she says, patiently, "but that's not going to hap-

pen. I feel that the defence of this nation is important, and I'd rather be helping with it than shirking it."

Ancient, unfashionable words like "shirking", "discipline", and "duty" flow from Forbes' lips, her freckled, unmade-up face recalling an era when women in the RAF did little but push things around on maps, and wave at departing bombers. The daughter of a successful Wirral businessman, she is the kind of girl whose most extraordinary feature is that she never joined the girl guides, but who asked to be sent away to

boarding school. "I was really keen on the idea," she remembers. "There are a lot of rules associated with boarding schools, but it's part of the discipline."

At Malvern College for Girls she liked sport. Which sport? She smiles brightly. "Athletics, cross country running, swimming, squash, tennis, rounders, netball, hockey, lacrosse, basketball..." She played hockey and swam for her county, and picked up a gold Duke of Edinburgh award from Buckingham Palace.

"I thoroughly enjoyed it."

she volunteers, speaking as if she were addressing a group of keen Fourth Formers. "It's not about excellence. It's about participation."

She wondered whether the RAF might offer a chance to carry on being sporting and shouldering responsibilities, but picked up an industrial scholarship instead, taking a first-class degree in electronic engineering at Warwick University. After six months designing aircraft instruments she concluded that the job was predictable — "although absolutely fascinating" — and walked into an RAF careers office.

As one of 94 officer cadets, 17 of them females, Susan rose at around 5.15am, so as to get her light-bulb and hot water pipes well-dusted before a day of leadership games, exams, camps, and continuous assessment. "It's military discipline," she says of the idiot tasks and endless drilling. "I think it's a good way to start, actually. If you are the kind of person who wants to join the forces, then you accept that kind of discipline."

As a woman cadet she remembers neither special treatment nor special hostility — "you run together and you drop together". But as her teachers handed her one special responsibility after another — from camp commandant to flight commander — she admits there was occasionally something she calls "friction". You are not the most popular person, you've got to push your weight a fair amount — but it's a position you are given and therefore obviously you should do it to the best of your ability.

Catherine Bennett

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TOMORROW

Health Page
"It doesn't have to be hell to be healthy" — can advertising combat Britain's number one killer?

BRIEFLY
A round-up of news, views and information

Stressing pressures

London pioneers City Health Care are teaching executives techniques on how to forestall post "Big Bang" stress, which can lead to burn-out and even total physical collapse. And although their health-screening programme sees seven times as many men as women, "those women we see have often encountered extra pressures in their drive to reach the top", director Malcolm Emery says.

"Women also suffer because they don't have the traditional watering holes to retreat to and relax after a long day." Women dealers and other professionals receive a full medical assessment (including mammograph and cervical smear). Doctors will also suggest stress-management techniques... such as taking a more relaxed attitude to work, and learning to delegate.

It has also been noted that in both sexes, people who beat the hell out of a squash ball or do some other sport regularly show far fewer symptoms of "City angst".

City Health Care is at 4-7 Chiswell Street, London EC1Y 4TH (01-638 4988).

Dream jobs

Raised hormone levels during pregnancy tend to trigger more bizarre, action-packed and vivid dreams than usual. But as the 1980s woman develops an increasingly careerist approach to life, a common theme of pregnancy dreams — unfaithful or unsupportive husbands — has taken a new twist.

Quote me



"There is a misapprehension that women describing sex is attractive. It isn't. The sexually-explicit blockbuster phenomenon is to do with money, not literature." — Anita Brookner, novelist

Peace together

Now that longer courtships are enjoying a revival, are couples turning to the old-fashioned pursuit of jigsaws? Carolyn Beves, who has run the British Jigsaw Library for 17 years, says that membership has increased to a record 400. She offers a selection of 4,000 infuriating puzzles, teasingly boxed with no picture.

"People say it's better than a marriage guidance counsellor," she says. "You sit either side of a jigsaw while enjoying a heart-to-heart, never looking each other in the eye."

SAE for details to Mrs Beves, Old Homend, Stretton Grandison, Leedbury, Herefordshire HR8 2TW.

Josephine Fairley

Department of Trade and Industry

CUBA

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The Cuba Desk,
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BBC1

- 6.00 Ceebees AM.**
6.35 Leon Errol in Twin Husbands (b/w). **6.35 Weather.**
7.00 Breakfast Time with Frank Bough, Betty Murguson, Jeremy Paxman and Pamela Armstrong. Includes national and international news at 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30; regional news and travel reports at 7.15, 7.45 and 8.15; weather at 7.25, 7.55 and 8.25.
8.35 The Pink Panther Show. Carphone (r). **8.55 Regional news and weather.**
9.00 News and weather 9.05. Children's BBC. Magazine programme presented by Tracy Brabin beginning with a Charlie Brown cartoon (r) followed at 9.35 with birthday greetings and Play School.
10.00 News and weather 10.05. **10.25 Cricket.** Tony Lewis and Richie Benaud introduce coverage of the NatWest Bank Trophy semi-finals. Gloucestershire play Nottinghamshire at Bristol; Leicestershire meet Northamptonshire at Leicester. The commentary team includes Ray Illingworth, Tom Graveney, Bob Willis, Jack Barnard, David Acfield and Robin Jackman. Includes news and weather at approximately 11.00 and 12.00. **12.55 Regional news and weather.**
1.00 News and weather 1.05. **1.25 Neighbours.** Max quotes the idea of being ill with his family dancing to his tune; and Darryl has a heart-to-heart with Rosemary.
1.50 Cricket. Further coverage of the NatWest Bank Trophy semi-finals.
4.10 The Paddy's New Adventures. (r). **4.35 The Really Wild Show.** Nature series presented by Terry Nutkins, Nick Davies and Chris Packham (r).
11.45 Weather.

BBC2

- 6.55 Open University: Unemployed in Chyd.** Ends at 7.30.
9.00 Ceebees.
10.25 Cricket. The NatWest Bank Trophy semi-finals. Gloucestershire play Nottinghamshire at Bristol; Leicestershire meet Northamptonshire at Leicester. **12.55 Ceebees.** **1.30 The Paddy's New Adventures.** (r). **1.35 Cricket.** Further coverage of both semi-finals of the NatWest Bank Trophy. Includes news and weather at 2.00, 3.00 and 4.00.
7.25 Open Space: A Nice Way to Treat People. A documentary about the homeless of Oxford whose illnesses are treated by Dr. Hilary Allinson who is based in a cabin next to a night shelter for the homeless in Luther Street.
7.55 E.D. Mark. His Sister and the Scientist. A documentary about the tests made on the sister of a young man crippled and confined to a wheelchair by Duchenne's muscular dystrophy. She is not affected but could be a carrier, liable to pass it on to any of her children. (r). (Ceebees)
8.25 Wildlife Showcase: Symphony of Magic. A film made over a period of seven years by Israeli naturalist Doron Hirschberg about the lives of wild orchids which grow in abundance in the middle eastern countryside. (Ceebees)
9.00 M*A*S*H. Gloom and despondency surround Trapper and Hawkeye as Henry prepares to give his command; unrestrained joy is felt by Hotlips and Frank as Major Burns becomes the new commanding officer (r).
9.25 Screenplay: Our Lady Blue. by Heidi Thomas. Patricia Hayes stars as a old, dying prostitute who's befriended in the Liverpool convent where she is spending her last days by a young volunteer visitor and a young delinquent who is doing community service.
10.25 Newsnight 11.10 Weather.
11.15 Cricket. Highlights of today's semi-final matches in the NatWest Bank Trophy competition.
12.10 Open University: Maths - Analytic Functions. **12.35 Statistics: The Central Limit Theorem.** Ends at 1.05.

ITV/LONDON

- 6.00 TV-am** introduced by Caroline Righton and Mike Morris. News at 6.00 and 6.30; financial news at 6.35; sport at 6.40; and exercises at 6.55.
7.00 Good Morning Britain presented by Kay Burley and Mike Morris. News at 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30; cartoon at 7.25; sport at 7.40; pop music at 7.55.
8.35 Wednesday with Timmy Mallett and Michaela Strachan.
9.25 Thames news headlines.
9.30 Singray (r). **10.00 Jack Holburn.** Jack has spent his part of the fortune on saving Judge Sharnagh and treating the slaves (r). **10.30 University Challenge.** University of St Andrews meet Churchill College, Cambridge.
11.00 The Giddy Game Show (r). **11.10 Allsorts** (r). **11.25 Thames news headlines.** Tomorrow Talking. Sixty former from all parts of the country talk about their hopes and fears for the future **12.00 The Sullivan.**
12.30 News with John Suchet **12.50 Thames news.**
1.00 A Country Practice. Medical drama series. **2.00 Password.** Word association game. **2.30 Daring in France.** With chief Guy Savoy at the Rungis Market in Paris.
3.00 Take the High Road 3.25 Thames news headlines **3.30 News and weather.**
4.00 The Tank Engine and Friends (r). **4.10 Bill the Minder** (r). **4.20 Video & Chips** examines the trade secrets of pop video makers **4.30 News** (r). **4.50 Hold Tight!** Barbie Wilde meets David Rudder and Salvation Sunday.
5.15 Adventure. Vincent and the crew discover that the final part of the movie has been stolen.
5.45 News with Fiona Armstrong **6.00 Thames news.**

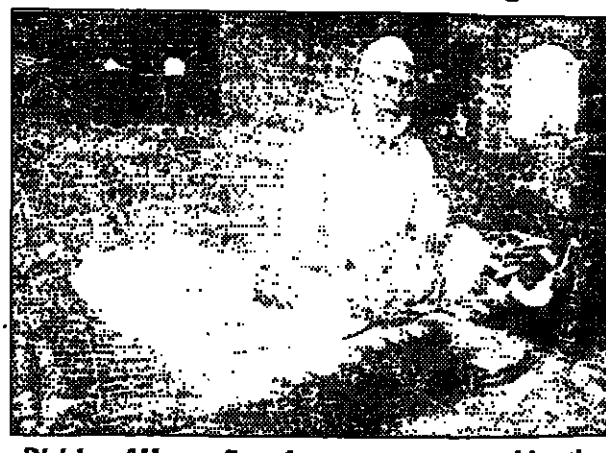
CHANNEL 4

- 2.35 Film: Old Mother Riley's Circus** (1941, b/w) starring Arthur Lucan and Kitty McShane. Comedy about an old Irish washerwoman who takes over a bankrupt circus and makes it a success despite the mischievous meddling of a villain. Directed by Thomas Bentley.
4.00 Film: Journey into Spring (1957). Spring comes to the Hampshire hills. 20 years ago, the country clergyman Gilbert White recorded the wildlife of his parish.
4.30 Countdown. Yesterday's winner is challenged by Suzanne Anderson from Liskeith in Derbyshire.
5.00 Cartoon Carnival.
5.30 Dream of Jeannie. Vintage American comedy series starring Barbara Eden and Larry Hagman.
6.00 My World and Welcome to it. Film and animation based on the works of the American humorist, James Thurber.
6.30 The Dragon Has Two Tongues. Part one of the series on the history of Wales and the Welsh, presented by Wynford Vaughan-Thomas and Gwyn A. Williams (r). (Oracle)
7.00 Channel 4 News with Peter Sissons and Anne Perkins.
7.50 Comment on the Arts from Peter Appleton. Followed by Weather.
8.00 The Home Service. Magazine programme of interest to anyone with a roof over their head. Presented by Judith Chalmers and Andy Crater.
8.30 The Orchestra. Julian Joy-Chagrin silently battles with a precocious young pianist who joins the orchestra for one performance.
9.00 Odyssey examines the opium trade in Asia's so called Golden Triangle; visits the Shilluk tribe in the Sudan; takes a trip along a Chinese canal; and watches draught-horse breeders at work in Belgium preparing for the Limburg show.
10.00 Division of Hearts. (see Choice)
11.30 News. Kellogg's Tour of Britain. Highlights of the first stage, the 125 miles long haul from Edinburgh to Newcastle. Ends at 12.30.

A parting of the ways

TELEVISION CHOICE

It is 40 years this month since the partition of India and Pakistan, the last bequest of British rule. Division of Hearts (C4, 10pm), in a quietly forceful way, develops V.S. Naipaul's comment that "no civilization was so little equipped to cope with the outside world: no country was so easily raided and plundered, and learnt so little from its disasters." Nor could it cope for itself, it is suggested here, when finally left alone. The programme is not, however, a blackboard lesson: nor is it another celebration of the Raj. Instead the programme-makers allow ordinary people who were affected by the upheaval to talk without visible prompting from an interviewer. It becomes clear that the partition caused national and personal histories to collide with force: 10 million Muslims, Hindus and Sikhs were displaced and dispossessed by the re-alignment, leading to enormous migra-



Division of Hearts, first of two programmes marking the 40th anniversary of India's partition (Channel 4, 10pm)

tions. "We travelled in fear," remembers one old man. Over half a million died, and trains arrived at destinations bearing only corpses. Individual tales are related with old-fashioned eloquence. "Even after 40 years many... bewail their misfortune," says one. Suffering, on the whole, is formalized by language, although there are graphic exceptions. "We were like a football," says another. "Wherever we went, we were kicked." There are fascinating asides, particularly in the pictures of city life, which reveal a contemporary equivalent to Dickensian London. The teeming existence seems familiar, because of recognizable traces of British town planning, but also quite remote because our cities have long ceased to function with such ferocious intensity.

Chris Petit

Radio 1

MF (medium wave) Stereo on VHF (see below)
5.30am Adrian John **7.00** The Breakfast Show **9.30** Simon Bates **1.00** Radio 1 Roadshow (from Eastbourne) **12.30** Newsbeat (Ian Parkinson) **12.45** Simon Mayo **2.00** Steve Wright Looking for a Laugh **2.30** Newsbeat **2.45** Bruno Brookes (and Top 30) **7.30** Janica Long **10.00** **12.00** John Peel VHF Stereo (continued) **7.00** Folk on 2 **8.30** As Radio 2 **10.00** As Radio 1 **12.00** **3.00am** As Radio 2.

Radio 2

MF (medium wave) Stereo on VHF (see Radio 1)
News on the hour. **Cricket Scoreboard 7.30pm**
8.00 The Radio 2 Breakfast **9.30** Ken Bruce (from Morecambe) **1.00** Jimmy Young **1.05pm** **1.45** Jacobs 2.00 News **2.05** Humphriss (from Morecambe) **3.30** Adrian Lowe **5.05** John Dunn **6.05** Cricket Special **7.30** Folk on 2 (continued) **8.00** Looking for a Laugh **9.00** Listen to the Band **10.00** Another Dance Indulgence **10.30** The Music Room **11.00** Round and Round at 78 rpm (Teddy Johnson) **11.00** Round Midnight from Edinburgh Festival **1.00am** Steve Maudslayi **3.00** **4.00** A Little Night Music.

WORLD SERVICE

All times are GMT. Add an hour for BST.
6.00 Newsweek **6.30** Mandarin **7.00** News **7.30** News **8.00** News **8.15** Classical Record Review **8.30** Brian of Britain **1987** **9.00** News **9.30** Review of British Press **9.15** World Today **9.30** Financial News followed by Look Ahead **9.45** Happy Talk **10.00** News **10.15** The World **10.30** News **10.45** Mid **11.00** News **11.05** News About Britain **11.15** Stopped Down Under **11.25** A Letter From Wales **11.30** Mandarin **12.00** Radio Newsworld **12.15** Verse **12.25** Farming World **12.45** Sports **1.00** News **1.09** 24 Hours **1.30** Development **1.35** Outside **2.45** Report on Religion **3.00** Radio Newsworld **3.15** Keep to the Point **3.30** Radio News **4.00** News **4.15** Commentary **4.15** English by Radio **4.45** London **5.30** News **5.45** Outlook **7.30** Sports **7.45** News **8.00** News **8.05** 24 Hours **8.30** Legacy of Empire **8.00** News **8.15** Network UK **8.15** Countdown **8.45** News **9.00** News **9.15** 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Leather group expands with £20m acquisition

By Ray Heath

Strong & Fisher (Holdings), the leather group, has bounced back from its disappointment at having its bid for Gurney Booth rejected to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission. It has bought from Union International its British Gornshall group and 50 per cent holding in New Zealand Light Leathers.

Strong is paying £20 million in cash for Gornshall, and will be partly financing the deal through a £10.25 million rights issue.

Gornshall is a specialist in treating lamb skins, and Mr Richard Strong, managing director of Strong & Fisher, said yesterday that the deal completed an important part of the company's corporate plan by strengthening its supply and production base.

It is already the world's leading supplier of high-quality leathers to the fashion trade, and exports about 90 per cent of its output.

Mr Strong said yesterday he anticipated no problem through referral to the Monopolies Commission this time.

"We have spoken to the Office of Fair Trading, and I am sure that they are now conversed in the realities of the UK leather industry, which they were not before," he said.

Strong's £20 million contested takeover bid for Gurney Booth was referred to the Monopolies Commission in November last year, and in February the company dropped its offer, switching to the



Richard Strong, Strong & Fisher managing director, with an example of N Zealand leather

purchase of two private companies instead.

The failure to buy Gurney Booth, in which it still holds a 17 per cent stake, did nothing to slow Strong's profit growth. In the year to end-June, the company expects to have increased profits by 35 per cent to £6 million, and is to pay a final dividend of not less than 7p, making a total of 10.5p up

17 per cent on the previous year.

Profits of Gornshall in the year to end December were £1.8 million, and its assets at the time were £16.4 million after the repayment of intra-group debt.

The 50 per cent stake in New Zealand Light Leathers will give the group added exposure to the fast-growing Pacific Basin region.

Despite last week's slump in stock market prices, Mr Strong said yesterday the company had no difficulty in underwriting the rights issue. Shareholders are offered one share for every four held at 27.5p, against a market price yesterday of 30.4p, up 1p.

Two buys for Evode

Evode Group, the former glue business now involved in specialty chemicals and plastics, is asking shareholders for £12.2 million to enable it to go on the takeover trail.

Evode is making two acquisitions: Sterling Technology, which it is buying from Reichhold Inc of the US for £5.6 million, and Commercial Ignition, which it is taking over in a £2.7 million deal.

Sterling, which makes electrical insulating products and industrial paints and coatings, is based at Trafford Park, Manchester, and made pre-tax profits of £750,000 last year on turnover of £4.6 million.

Commercial Ignition supplies a range of electronic and electrical components to the automotive after-market and last year made pre-tax profits of £234,000 on sales of £3.1 million.

Evode is raising £12.2 million from shareholders by the issue of 7.1 million new shares at 171p a share.

West Midlands unite in bid to regenerate local industry

By Derek Harris, Industrial Editor

An action plan aimed at a regeneration of the West Midlands economy, with its heavy reliance on traditional manufacturing, is expected to be launched next month.

The plan follows a study which recommends the creation of a "West Midlands United" to tackle the problem.

The new body has been preferred because, as it is private sector-led, it is estimated to cost just £1.5 million a year, of which only a quarter would probably be called for from public funds.

The creation of a West Midlands Development Authority, as a regional agency to the public sector-led, could be expected to cost £20 million a year.

The Birmingham Employers' Forum, a broadly-based body made up of senior industrialists, public-sector

leaders and academics, commissioned the study* from the Price Waterhouse consultancy. It also had the backing of Business in the Community, the national body for encouraging community economic action.

The forum took action after a severe decline in the competitiveness of the West Midlands. The study points out that the region has a narrow economic base that is mainly in sectors of low or static growth which face increasing overseas competition. Some areas have evidence of "severe decline and dereliction, especially in the inner cities".

Problems singled out include:

- The region is 73 per cent dependent in manufacturing employment on vehicle and metal manufacture, metal goods and mechanical and

electrical engineering, all industries hard hit since the late 1970s;

- Unemployment averages 15.4 per cent, although it is down from its 1983 peak of 16.4 per cent;

- Capital investment is at an historically low level, 82 per cent of the national average;

- The region lacks a good image or even an identity;

- There is an absence of long-term regional strategy.

What is called for is diversification of the regional economic base into higher-growth sectors, either by technological improvements in existing products or building in new capabilities.

*Preliminary Study for an Economic Recovery Programme for the West Midlands by Price Waterhouse for Birmingham Employers Forum.

The City 'need not fear EEC'

From Our Correspondent Brussels

The City of London has nothing to fear from a statutory control body governing takeover bids or from a mandatory European takeover code, European Economic Community sources argued yesterday.

A statutory EEC code could be as flexible as the City's voluntary code of conduct, while a statutory body could act as fast and efficiently as the self-regulatory British Panel on Takeovers and Mergers.

The assurance came in defence of preliminary European Commission plans for a legally binding EEC-wide code of practice, which have aroused British hostility.

The European Commission argues that the legally binding controls in France work along similar lines to the self-regulatory British system. They said France's statutory body acts with the same speed and flexibility as the British panel when coping with an illegal dawn raid. While a judicial review may be called for under the French system, it can be completed in three days.

The EEC sees legal controls on takeovers as a necessary counterpart to the increasing freedom of movement of capital between member nations. And officials believe the need for EEC-wide action is getting more urgent as the trend towards international takeovers gathers pace.

Sources in Brussels said the EEC will not call on all governments to enact exactly similar takeover laws, and will not propose setting up an EEC bureaucracy to oversee control activities. But it will demand that national takeover codes be backed by laws that meet minimum requirements designed to safeguard the interests of the shareholder.

In addition, the laws could offer some protection for the target company, and provide a brake on speculative bids. For instance, all offers would have to be public, disclosing the name of the target company, numbers of shares and the way they are valued.

Beyond these minima, individual governments could go further, giving control bodies the right, if necessary, to grant exemptions or take tougher measures.

But there must be no exceptions to the basic rules for control.

Officials hope to present detailed and formal proposals before the end of the year.

COMMENT Kenneth Fleet

Trade figures give gin and tonic to markets

If Monday's producer prices for July made rather better reading than pessimists feared and yesterday's (strike-delayed) June balance of payments figures were in line with sober City forecasts, do tomorrow's average earnings figures and Friday's retail price index hold any threat for a market that has recovered its composure in two trading days? And if not, why did the Chancellor of the Exchequer, abetted by the Bank of England, force base rates higher last Thursday and send share prices reeling?

The June trade figures, after May's shattering performance, were always going to be the real test for a market destabilized by 10 per cent base rates. Although the deficit in visible trade remains high (£768 million) and does not reflect well on manufacturing, bearing in mind price advantages conferred by a devalued pound, the £168 million deficit on current account (allowing for the pro forma £600 million surplus on invisibles) seemed a positive triumph of British ingenuity after a deficit of £527 million. May's outturn is now dubbed a freak and the g and t's are again going down a treat.

So if the balance of payments is back on a satisfactory course; July's seasonally adjusted, year-on-year rise in industry's input prices (8.3 per cent) was "exceptional", average earnings are not rising at the predicted 8 per cent plus; and an RPI of 4.5 per cent is a poor guide to the trend of inflation, why last week's sledgehammer treatment?

Probably because the Chancellor is looking further ahead than the stock market. As we are frequently reminded by officialdom, one month's figures are an imperfect guide to anything and it is worth remembering that the Chancellor's Budget forecast for the balance of payments this year was a deficit of £2.5 billion. The first six months has yielded a tiny surplus of £37 million, so unless the forecast has been radically revised, the monthly deficit from July on may be expected to average about £400 million a month. In the second place, interest rates in West Germany and Japan are rising and it would not do for us to get out of line.

On yesterday's evidence, when the FT-SE 100 share index rose 33.2 (it dropped 145 in last week's mayhem), the equity market has decided the worst is over. Reactions of the kind we have seen in recent days support the view expressed here on Saturday that London, like other major markets, may be becoming a market where instant and violent corrections are the pattern. It would be foolish to imagine that bear markets, any more than bull markets, are things of the past; but rapid adjustments to what are suddenly perceived to be more realistic price levels could postpone if not forestall a major shift to a long declining phase.

The more interesting responses yes-

terday were in the gilt-edged market. After behaving in the morning, if you will pardon the technical jargon, like a whore's drawers, dealers decided they had seen the worst and began moving firmly toward levels prevailing before the base rate rise. But be warned: a market in which prices are rising at the same time as short-term interest rates are rising is a dangerous place.

Power politics

The Swedes, like the Dutch, have a good record in cross-border, cross-language mergers and takeovers. The get-together of Asea and Brown Boveri to form Europe's biggest heavy electrical group, while still problematical, therefore stands a better chance of success than, say, Anglo-Italian or Franco-German mergers. It also provides a more powerful worldwide competitor in both the over-supplied power station business and the growing electric railway market. Who knows what might have happened if the Germans had not been so sniffy about Lord Weinstock's attempt to pick up the ailing AEG a few years ago; or if Lord Weinstock had been more persistent and thick-skinned?

As it is, GEC, though less directly affected than Siemens, is no longer in the same league as Siemens, Hitachi, American General Electric or the new combination. GEC is well aware of the problem. It once aimed to build a world presence in nuclear power by obtaining a British monopoly but fell foul of industry-Whitehall politics. After the AEG disappointment, it tried to redress a similar fall down the international league, by taking over Plessey, only to be thwarted this time by the Ministry of Defence.

But GEC has now adapted. Its new strategy is to graft a string of relatively small acquisitions on to existing minor businesses in order to build up an international presence in much smaller market segments. This represents a more active, safer, but ultimately less ambitious approach.

The global competition card is now being played — with less genuine conviction — by Lord King in his attempt to take out British Caledonian. The Government can hardly fail to understand the central issue of competition versus power in world markets, given the striking example of France, which has come from nowhere to a leading role in anything from civil aircraft to nuclear power by government promotion of domestic monopoly groups with international ambitions. It seems more likely that Whitehall has opted for a Hanson-style medium-technology competitive future, with British industry shrinking to a rather small and insignificant world role. Recent decisions on space certainly point in that direction.

Hestair spends \$20m in US expansion

By Joe Joseph

Hestair is broadening its range of temporary employment agencies in the US with the purchase of Aubrey Thomas of New York and Kelly Assisted Living Services of Massachusetts. Together they cost about \$20 million (£12.8 million).

These latest additions to Hestair's growing personnel services business across America will accelerate the company's progress from an industrial holding company, dependent on engineering, to a group which now reaps the

lion's share of its sales from its services and consumer products division.

In April, Hestair paid \$16.4 million for three US employment bureaux — Talent Tree, First Temporaries and Team Services. Last month, it fished out its US empire by buying Secretaries, a leading Chicago-based employment agency.

Hestair's US employment agency activity now commands annual sales of more than \$150 million, drawn from 85 wholly-owned branches.

ches. But it has further ambitions for the lucrative and expanding American market.

Hestair wants to mould its interests into a coherent US group, with a single name and trading style. It also plans to open new branches where it is presently unrepresented.

Aubrey Thomas, a temporary employment agency operating in New York City, Long Island, Connecticut and New Jersey, has sales of \$31 million a year from its 12 locations. Hestair plans to

extend the company's interests north and south along the eastern seaboard. The \$17.49 million purchase price is being met through the issue of 3.48 million new Hestair shares.

Hestair is paying \$2.3 million in cash on a deferred basis for Kelly, whose businesses will complement those carried out by Massachusetts Paramedical, part of Hestair's US subsidiary, Ward Management. Hestair is paying a further \$600,000 to fund receivables.

Olivier's good luck charm

It is heartening to discover that despite the traumas of the Guinness scandal, Olivier Roux, the Bain & Co management consultant who was effectively the drink company's finance director, has kept his sense of humour. Roux, a 36-year-old Frenchman, has joined forces with two other ex-Bain executives, Richard Grogan, aged 37, and American David Hoare, who is 33. The three have bought an off-the-shelf company, Effortum, changed its name to Tallman Management, and are now looking for private or public acquisitions into which they can inject their not inconsiderable management skills. "We particularly liked the name Tallman — it is a small dist which protects you from evil and we considered it quite appropriate in the circumstances," explains a tongue-in-cheek Roux with a wry smile. Until the Guinness saga is finally buried, Roux says he will continue to work behind the scenes for Grogan and Hoare — "they are close friends as well as close business associates" — on an "informal" basis. "They have been meeting a lot of people in the City who might be looking for a 'buy-in' team and I have been helping them with their research, going through companies sector by sector," says Roux, adding that they would be particularly interested in anything in the manufacturing, retailing or distribution sector.

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

City security blanket

Proof of those enormous salaries earned by post-Big Bang City slickers. Hot from the presses, the annual report of securities house Smith New Court reveals that nine of its UK directors and senior employees now earn more than £205,000 a year — as opposed to some last year. No doubt to maintain the differentials, the company's cigar-smoking chairman, Tony Lewis, received "emoluments" of £287,000, excluding pension contributions, an increase of £74,000 on the previous year. The report also reveals SNC spent an additional £720,000 on residential property as part of its scheme "to assist senior employees with house purchases". And, for the first time, the price it paid for stockbroker Scott Goff Layton is made known — £3.9 million.

Last orders

Mixed emotions for the Brits in Hollywood at the end of this month when they witness the closure and then demolition of the oldest and best known British pub in town — the Cock'n Bull on Sunset



"Sell shipping shares — buy mining shares"

Strip — to make way for the expansion of a neighbouring car showroom selling Jaguar cars. Run by John Morgan, whose father opened the pub in 1937, the Cock'n Bull was made famous by the patronage of British stars like David Niven in the 1940s. It is also reputed to have been there when the Moscow Mule — a vodka and ginger beer cocktail — was invented. Memorabilia from the pub will be sold off at an invitation-only sale in September.

● Looking for an exotic holiday home with a difference? Over-sized actor Marlon Brando has decided to sell off leasehold building plots on the South Pacific island of Tetiarua, which he bought in 1962 after filming part of *Marino* on the Bounty there. But they won't come cheap. The minimum price is \$1.5 million for lease of up to 75 years plus a monthly rent of \$4,000 on top.

Production line grouse

The Glorious Twelfth today marks the start of the grouse season and up in County Durham they are clearly hoping that it will become big business. A local landowner, with the unlikely name of Sheikh Ahmed bin Rashid, the son of the Prince of Dubai, has invested in a £45,000 grouse-processing line for his Bohlhouse Estate in Teesdale, adjacent to the estate where Lord Whitelaw accidentally shot both industrialist Sir Joseph Nickerson and his loader back in 1984 during a day-long grouse shoot. The idea is that the Sheikh's guests will be able to take their grouse away with them, ready processed for cooking. Using the new machine, specially trained staff will chill the birds to remove body heat at five times the normal rate, allowing them to be plucked immediately without causing any damage. However, whilst the Sheikh's shoots will be strictly for invitation guests only, elsewhere in Britain it seems that the cost of maintaining grouse moors is now so prohibitive that landowners are forced to let them out for much of the season — which runs until December 10 — to rich Americans and the new, young rich in the City. The cost works out at at least £15 for each bird shot.

● The most sought-after employees in the City are, apparently, now known as Classys — computer literate and settlement services yuppies.

Carol Leonard

NEW PUBLICATION—FREE TRIAL OFFER

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NOW, for the first time in the UK, you can have that exclusive information, thanks to a new computerised service called SMART MONEY MONITOR (or SMM for short). Made possible by Big Bang, SMM is a newsletter that uses a unique analytical system that shows you precisely which top shares are poised for maximum take-off.

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These knowledgeable professionals concentrate mainly on the top Alpha and Beta shares. The professionals are looking for performance. To keep their jobs, they must do better than the Financial Times Actuaries All Share Index, which is their benchmark.

The fund managers all get their buy/sell advice from the leading analysts in each sector, so when they act they tend to act in unison. They all possess on the ground share (or shares) and the inevitable happens: the price, which is already moving up, really takes off.

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- **Freemans** Buy signal in July '85. Rose from 238p to 344p by year-end — a jump of 44% in five months. If held until July '86 the gain would have been 88%.
- **Luxor** Buy signal in September '85. Rose by 25% by year-end and peaked at 650p — a gain of 75% — in April '86 when a falling share price and high volume indicated a sell signal. By September the shares were back to 490p.
- **Woolworths** Buy signal in August '85. Rose from 458p to 582p by end October — a jump of 27% in three months. This was before any bid possibilities.
- **Allied Lyons** Buy signal in June '85. Rose from 180p to 300p by year-end — a jump of 51% in six months. Continued upwards to a high of 380p.

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Portfolio - Gold -

From your portfolio card check your eight share price movements on this page. Add them up to give you your daily dividend figure. If it makes you, you have won outright or a share of the total prize money stated. If you are a winner follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. You must always have your card available when claiming. Game rules appear on the back of your card.

No.	Company	Group	Gain or Loss
1	Am New Z	Banks/Discount	
2	Onman	Banks/Discount	
3	Matthews (Bernard)	Food	
4	Tec Rack	Drugs/Stores	
5	Body Shop	Drugs/Stores	
6	Appelre Hides	Food	
7	Freemake	Food	
8	Firm Net Finance	Banks/Discount	
9	Audio Fidelity	Electronics	
10	Fire Art Dev	Drugs/Stores	
11	BSR	Electronics	
12	System Designers	Electronics	
13	P-E International	Electronics	
14	Buckley	Breweries	
15	Bank Of Ireland	Banks/Discount	
16	Restalls	Drugs/Stores	
17	Redington	Breweries	
18	Chloride	Electronics	
19	Bulmer (H P)	Breweries	
20	Hickling Peacock	Textiles	
21	Pick Lovell	Food	
22	Am Aust Bk	Banks/Discount	
23	REA Co	Motor/Aircraft	
24	Bentall (CD)	Motor/Aircraft	
25	Office Elec Mach	Industrial L-R	
26	Hampson Ind	Industrial E-K	
27	Higgs & Hill	Building/Roads	
28	Wintrest	Banks/Discount	
29	Harrison Ind	Building/Roads	
30	Chamberlain Ph	Industrial A-D	
31	Bentley	Industrial A-D	
32	Highland Dist	Breweries	
33	Armstrong	Motor/Aircraft	
34	EMAP	Newspapers/Pub	
35	Heads Motor	Motor/Aircraft	
36	Unilever (NV)	Industrial S-Z	
37	Belhaven	Breweries	
38	Kwik-Fit	Motor/Aircraft	
39	Barratt Devs	Building/Roads	
40	Wagen Ind	Industrial S-Z	
41	Aberdeen Constr	Building/Roads	
42	Stanley Leisure	Leisure	
43	Arcliffe	Building/Roads	
44	RMC Op (as)	Building/Roads	

Please take into account any minus signs

Weekly Dividend						
Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £8,000 in Saturday's newspaper.						
MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	Weekly Total

BRITISH FUNDS			
1987	High	Low	Stock

SHORTS (Under Five Years)			
1987	High	Low	Stock

FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS			
1987	High	Low	Stock

OVER FIFTEEN YEARS			
1987	High	Low	Stock

UNDATED			
1987	High	Low	Stock

INDEX-LINKED			
1987	High	Low	Stock

BANKS DISCOUNT HP			
1987	High	Low	Stock

BANKS DISCOUNT HP			
1987	High	Low	Stock

BANKS DISCOUNT HP			
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1987	High	Low	Stock

BANKS DISCOUNT HP			
1987	High	Low	Stock

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Recovery continues

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began yesterday. Dealings end August 21. Settlement day August 24. Settlement day September 1. Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

Prices are recorded at 5pm. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close and may differ from changes calculated by comparing 5pm prices, published the previous day. Where one price is quoted, it is a middle price. Changes, yields and price earnings ratios are based on middle prices. (as) denotes Alpha Stocks. (VOLUMES PAGE 22)

1987	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	P/E

BREWERIES							
1987	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	P/E

BUILDINGS AND ROADS							
1987	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	P/E

ELECTRICALS							
1987	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	P/E

ELECTRICALS							
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1987	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	P/E

ELECTRICALS							
1987	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	P/E

FINANCE AND LAND							
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1987	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	P/E

ELECTRICALS							
1987	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	P/E

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1987	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	P/E

OVERSEAS TRADERS							
1987	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	P/E

OVERSEAS TRADERS							
1987	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	P/E

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OVERSEAS TRADERS							
1987	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	P/E

OVERSEAS TRADERS							
1987	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	P/E

835	255	(H Land)	720	770	..	5	6%	28.0
17	18 1/2	Werner	120	124	..	30	25	48.0
12	12	Woodward	110	110	..	30	25	2.1
200	188	Woods	213	213	+3	26	21	54.7
200	195	Worthington	228	242	..	6	7	54.7
200	195	Worldwide Jap.	210	210	..	17	11	13.5
250	260	West & Country	320	258	+25	12 1/2	5.1	13.5
370	280	Wingate	310	320	..	4.5	14	13.5

SHIPPING

577	315	Amoco R/P Ports	693	607	+6	8.2	14	25.3
428	278	Cameron	351	402	-1	7.5	19	26.6
178	101	Carson (H)	150	155	-2	6.5	42	16.9

New Fund	398.6	-1.34%	Do Inc	34.8	36.98	+1.2	5.1%	Australia	191.2	140.3	-1.71	Do Acc	578.2	606.8	+0.8	2.1%	Do Accum	223.5	237.1c	+2.6	1.8%	Panama Tst HK	68.0	70.48	-0.1	0.1%	Financial	38.6	41.1e	+0.4	1.8%	(46) 2nd Tuesday of month.
UNLISTED SECURITIES															INVESTMENT TRUSTS																	

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

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SALES REPRESENTATIVE

C & L LONN

EMBRATT'S INDUST

PAGE AV

SOUTHALE M

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MEDIA & MARKETING

However you view it, our television is great

British television is an undervalued success story. Despite occasional lapses, it is popular at home; it is acclaimed abroad. Our television programmes make friends for this country; they make money for this country. There is a quality about most British programmes — BBC and ITV. There is an occasional excellence: the list of international prizes grows every month.

So I found it more than usually irritating when Brian Davis, in last week's *Opinion*, sneered at our reputation for enjoying the best television in the world.

Perhaps it is not surprising that, in common with many broadcasters, I believe that we are fortunate in this country with the service we get from the four channels available to us. Most media experts agree. There is evidence to back this view.

For example, the highly-reputable audience measurement company, AGB, recently published *A Tale of Four Cities*. It compared television viewing in cities in Britain, America, Hong Kong and the Philippines. Despite the far greater number of channels and transmission hours in a city like Boston, Mass., individual viewing hours were greater in Britain. This suggests at least a considerable degree of satisfaction with what is on offer here.

"The range of programming available to all the population in the United Kingdom through the two BBC channels and the two ITV channels is among the most extensive throughout the world." I quote from the major research document prepared for the Peacock Committee, a document which received far too little publicity.

The authors, Professor Jay Blumler and T.J. Nossiter, concluded that it is "highly probable that the range of choice on any day in the United Kingdom is greater than in most other countries, including the United States".

In the United States, there is, of course, a wider choice.

OPINION

Paul Fox

The other day in New York, I faced 48 screens and I could not find one which I really wanted to watch. Despite the proliferation of channels, the bulk of viewing still centres on the three major networks, ABC, CBS and NBC.

When it comes to repeats, which Mr Davis dismisses so crossly, most of primetime — 8pm to 11pm — is given over to repeats in the summer.

I went to New York to attend a special showing of the Yorkshire Television documentary *The Falklands War: The Untold Story*. It was given an enthusiastic welcome because it stood out like a beacon: the single documentary is almost a forgotten species on American network television.

What has happened in Italy underlines the effect of a complete deregulation of broadcasting channels. Of course, it wasn't marvellous when state-owned RAI had the monopoly. But no one can pretend that the Italian viewer is better off than his British counterpart, despite the recent proliferation of channels.

As for France, the three Government-controlled channels provided little satisfaction and raised a lot of criticisms because of considerable political involvement. When Chirac's Government sold off one of the state-run channels and set up three new private ones, there were hopes for higher standards.

In fact, there is as much political manoeuvring as ever and while it is still too early to draw any conclusions, it is unlikely that the new programmes will be markedly different or more acceptable than those provided by the old system.

Finally, West Germany. Like Mr Davis, I picked a typical weekday and, with the

best will in the world, I couldn't get very excited by what was on offer on the three available channels — one of them a regional channel. German television is obsessed with political programmes and interminable quiz shows. I doubt whether many Germans would claim they were better served than their British neighbours.

There are more important issues at stake than Mr Davis's ill-informed comments about the ITV summer schedule. I accept that he doesn't like it, but he really must not say that only *Coronation Street* appears regularly in the top ten programmes. In the week ending July 26, the latest figures available, ITV had seven programmes in the top ten, including two factual programmes, a new drama serial and a new comedy series.

This is not to say that all is perfect in the television world: we've had our wobbly weeks, but the recovery is under way. And if, as I believe, we have a season of good programmes ahead of us, please remember the programme makers.

Programmes are not made by television executives; they are made by a combination of talents: writers, performers, directors, producers, cameramen, editors and all of them have to be on song for programmes to work. The creative community in this country is remarkable for its inventiveness and television is still fortunate in attracting the best talent.

We are fortunate, too, with our viewers: our programmes still mean a lot to them. The other week, we showed a local Yorkshire documentary about a children's hospice.

The calls, the letters and the donations we received as a result of that programme underlined to me how much the public values its television service. There are many times when it enriches all our lives.

Paul Fox is Managing Director of Yorkshire Television.

As the second new contender enters a fierce women's magazine war today, David Housham looks at its winning formula

One of the first English words that German publishing executive, Rolf Paltzer, learned on arriving in Britain last year was "daft".

This, he says, was the general opinion here of the plan by his company, Gruner & Jahr, to add a new monthly women's magazine to the overflowing racks of the nation's newsagents, especially when he talked of a circulation target of one million.

It has taken less than a year for the sneer to fall from the face of the British magazine publishing industry as G&J's title, *Prima*, has already reached that target, contravening most current editorial and publishing trends.

So the launch today of G&J's second British title, *Best*, is being taken very seriously, especially at IPC. *Best* is an audacious venture into the women's weekly magazine market which has been dominated for many years by IPC's Big Four — *Woman*, *Woman's Own*, *Woman's Realm* and *Woman's Weekly*.

Despite a competitive cover price of 35p, Paltzer stresses that G&J is not out to carve up IPC's market share with *Best*, but hopes that it will emulate *Prima*'s circulation performance, half of which comprises new readers. "Our interest is to expand the market."

Best's editor-in-chief is Iris Burton, who left IPC where she was editor of *Woman's Own* and then moved to G&J to oversee the launch of *Prima*. Both German magazines are distinctive in having pages crammed with ideas for improving your home, cooking, wardrobe, health, etc. And both stick very closely to the formulae of their sister titles in other countries.

Prima was first launched in France and then Germany before arriving here. The concept for *Best* was tested in France in 1984 where as *Femme Actuelle* it has become the country's most popular women's magazine, selling two million copies a week and read by one in four French women.



Rolf Paltzer

British publishers were doubtful, but he has already achieved his one million circulation target with *Prima*.

The first off-shoot of *Femme Actuelle* was *Mia*, launched in Spain last year and selling around 200,000 copies a week.

Paltzer compares *Femme Actuelle*, *Mia* and *Best* to show that they share the same concept. "Something to look at" (a fashion spread) is followed

by "something to read" (a spread of short news items), then "something to do" (a crossword), and so on.

There are none of the Royal revelations or soap star sob stories that fill our home-grown magazines. "Practical advice and gossip don't mix," he says with unexpected sever-

BRITAIN. THE SOFT TARGET

When European publishers have cast a commercial eye at Britain in the past, they have been frightened off by the Fleet Street barons. But now, constrained by their cut-throat markets at home, they see Britain's magazine markets, run by torpid moonlights, as easy targets.

Another German publisher, Bauer, intends to launch *Bella* — a version of its US magazine, *Woman's World*. A British "sister" to the Spanish

women's weekly, *Hola*, is planned for next February and Germany's Verlag Aenne Burde may introduce a UK version of its monthly, *Verena*.

Another growing trend is likely to be link-ups between British and foreign publishers. Like Germany's Axel Springer with Independent Television Publications to produce *Chat*, and Hachette's co-venture with News International to produce the British *Elle* and *Sky* magazines.

ity. "People interested in gossip are always off in dreamland. People looking for information have a limited amount of time and they want the maximum amount of information in that time. Our objective is to produce well-printed value-for-money packages. Magazines are becoming like television; you get zapped if the reader doesn't react to something on every page."

In both planning a launch and monitoring reader response to their magazines, G&J make great use of "focus groups" for research. Some people accuse them of over-testing and treating magazines like new brands of soap powder, admits Paltzer.

He explains how G&J operate, the mix of methodical and bold behaviour, with an effusive logic that makes its rapid international empire building seem unsurprising in its simplicity.

The German Gruner printing business and the Jahr family publishing house amalgamated at the end of the 1960s and not long afterwards split 75 per cent themselves to the international German media giant, the Bertelsmann Corporation. G&J currently has printing clients all over Europe and a division in America. It publishes 20 titles in Germany (including *Stern*), five in France, five in Spain and two in America.

It has been a good time for G&J to attack the UK, particularly with exorbitant TV advertising costs increasingly inciting clients to consider the worth of magazines. Moreover, after a decade of decline magazine reading is now experiencing a small but steady up-turn.

The long-term commitment of G&J to the British market is evident in the resources they are prepared to put behind their titles. *Best* is being offered to newsagents on an unusual sale-or-return basis and advertisers will get refunds if *Best*'s sales figures fall to top 500,000.

The policy of going for circulation first and then worrying about advertising revenue has paid off with *Prima*. Its *Women's Institute*-style appeal has ensured an up-market readership profile and thus its page rate for advertising has shot up from £4,000 to £12,000 this year.

"Our position is the same as it was last year," declares Paltzer with a smile. "We didn't come here to do just two titles, but I've no idea where we're going along the road. Gardening maybe. There's a weekly gardening magazine here that sells 130,000 copies — I find that very interesting."

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Excellent opportunities exist for the job to grow in line with this superb Development which features luxury villas, town houses and apartments as well as a golf course and a Sheraton Hotel.

The total package will consist of a negotiable salary plus commission. References will be required.

Applications in writing to: Pine Cliffs Recruitment c/o MAP, 62, Oxford St., London W1.

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If you feel you have the above qualities, please apply in writing with full C.V. together with three varied examples of your work, and your salary expectations to:

Mrs Jutta Soller, Recruitment Officer,
Saga Holidays PLC,
The Saga Building, Middleburg Square,
FOLKESTONE, Kent CT20 1AZ.

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In addition the successful applicant will be responsible for the smooth running of the Front of House operations.

This is a high profile pressured position and requires someone who has had proven experience in merchandising and staff management.

Experience in the leisure industry would be an advantage, enthusiasm and leadership qualities are essential.

As a good communications at all levels you will play an important role in the running of the park and receive a remuneration commensurate with the position.

Applicants should apply in their own handwriting with full CV, current salary and references to:

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A lively, experienced sales person is required to join the team selling advertising space in the only publication covering the audio-visual and corporate video market.

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Photocopy House, Jubilee Close,
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Tel: 01-200 4545

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Advertising sales people wanted for small but expanding Publishing Co. in NW9, to sell advertising space on our various titles and products. Best salary £2,500 + large commission, car or allowance. Experience preferred but not essential.

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Townsend Lane, Kingsbury, NW9 5TR
Tel: 01-200 4545

MEDIA & MARKETING

Ghosting for Hamlet

When the accident-prone Hamlet cigar smoker stepped into the latest RAC television commercial this month, he was following a clutch of illustrious predecessors.

Before him, look-alikes of the Milk Tray man in black, the Bergasol girls, Cornetto's Latin lover, and the Levis bronzed beef-cake, Nick Kamen, have all promoted completely different products. Heineken picked on Milk Tray and Bergasol, Barclaycard on Cornetto, and Carling Black Label on Levis.

It is a craze which may seem to be a piece of innocuous self-indulgence from an industry running out of ideas. In reality, it is a technique

When a cigar smoker promotes the RAC and the Milk Tray man sells lager, it's good news for the advertisers, Charles Elliott reports

which, if used properly, makes sound commercial sense for both parties in the parody.

According to the advertisers, there is no question of them coming to any financial deal before a parody is made. The "spoof" is strictly the product of a gentleman's agreement, and is paid for by the manufacturer of the product being promoted. Indeed, the ITCA - the body responsible for vetting commercials before they go on air - accepts only advertisements made "in a spirit of co-operation".

The agency making the parody simply shows its script or lay-out to

the manufacturer and agency of the original product. Agreement then depends on whether both parties think they will gain from the exercise, and whether they are confident that their own expensively-nurtured "original" will not be mocked or sullied.

Invariably, there is extreme vigilance over the parody, extending right down to the finest executional points, such as the way the Hamlet smoker lights his cigar. "The only thing we demand is that our advertising is treated in a faithful way, and that we can be sure our property won't be degraded," says

Jacqueline Bowen, director of the Cornetto account at SSC & B Lintas.

All the devices which have been imitated come from well-established campaigns which have become household names. So even if one advertiser is footing the entire bill for his spoof, he is reaping the benefits of many years and millions of pounds of investment.

"The Hamlet campaign is 20 years old, so we're tapping into something which people know and understand already. It's a kind of shorthand," says Saatchi & Saatchi's joint creative director

James Lowther, who produced the RAC advertisement.

For the agency being parodied, the exercise means free publicity and a way of extending and reinforcing its own campaign.

But the "copy-cat" agency is always in danger if its own campaign is not sufficiently resilient. It must be sure it is not simply dishing out free publicity for someone else. Therefore a fine balance has to be struck, says Sarah Moncrieff, account director at J. Walter Thompson for Andrex which is used in an ad for Hamlet.

"Our research shows that Andrex consumers enjoy the Hamlet commercial enormously, and that a proportion of them actually think it's an ad for Andrex."



Whichever work: ice cream comes to the aid of the bankers as just one Cornetto is used in the Barclaycard promotion



The Hamlet scene: the famous image of a cigar smoker helps to pull in members for the Royal Automobile Club



The incredible hunk: Carling Black Label try Levis' Nick Kamen on for size to help them sing it out in the lager market

How Radio 3 found Beethoven again

Familiar works by famous composers are to be heard more often on Radio 3's Morning Concert.

John Drummond, the new Controller, has decreed that less time shall be devoted to the obscure works of obscure men.

The decision will delight those who maintain that Radio 3 is too exclusive. It may horrify those who believe that too much of its output is already "aural wallpaper",

bland and unadventurous. But according to executives at the BBC, it is unlikely to herald a major general move downmarket when Drummond unveils his new look Radio 3 later this year.

Many decisions about the network's future style and shape have yet to be taken: the new man started in June, but has been too pre-occupied with the Proms - his chief responsibility in his previous job as Controller of Music -

Nick Higham looks at a cultural bastion under orders from a new Controller

to complete the plans for Radio 3.

But already there are some indications of how he intends to fulfil his brief to make the network more "accessible" (BBC code for increasing its audience, currently three million a week) without destroying its reputation as a bastion of culture.

Most of the changes will be cosmetic and can be heard already in the presentation of the Proms. For the first time Radio 3 announcers have been encouraged to spend a whole day at the Royal Albert Hall, listening to rehearsals and talking to the artists in an effort to make the presentation of that evening's concert

livelier and more immediate.

Drummond's watchwords are spontaneity and homogeneity. He wants less of the spoken word on Radio 3 to be scripted and he wants better programme planning with more "seasons" - a Byron season early next year, Messiaen and Boulez some months later.

There will be more concert interval talks related to the music; more live relays from concert halls, opera houses

and festivals; and more plays, with the emphasis on contemporary writers.

Although repackaged, the mixture is likely to be much as before, however. Drummond is a man of eclectic tastes, as the Proms programme demonstrates, and deeply committed to the "public service" obligation to educate as well as to entertain. The wallpaper may be better hung, but the pattern will be just as varied.

BYLINES

Open secrets

The Mirror Group is about to experience what will surely be the least effective "Chinese wall" of all time.

As of next Monday, the staffs of both the *Sunday Mirror* and the *Sunday People* will be crammed next to the *Daily Mirror*'s journalists on the third floor of Cap'n Bob's HQ in High Holborn.

Most of the floor has nothing except open-plan space dividers to prevent the highly-competitive journalists on the three papers overhearing and observing what their rivals are up to. Not to mention the covert rifling of opposing news desks' files - though MGN journalists might claim to be above such things.

On the face of it, the move (involving the shifting of the *Mirror*'s library down to the first floor) will make the papers' current switch to new technology more easy to manage. It will also make it possible, if he wishes, for Maxwell to recoup some of his £50 million losses on the *London Daily News* by selling the Orbit House building vacated by *The People* and the *Sunday Mirror*.

Equally, the move is re-awakening the old fears that the *Sunday* titles might be merged to create a seven-day *Mirror*.

That's your Lott

A mere fortnight after appointing Tim Lott as replacement for its two outgoing editors, left-wing London listings magazine, *City Limits*, is embarking on another new editor. Lott, formerly editor of *Flexipop*, seemed to many an odd choice for the heavily-politicized publication, for which the long gruelling hours of editing are rewarded with a co-operative salary of just £7,500. Lott, however, clearly isn't after riches. Now he's resigned, he says he really wants to be a playwright.

Price of fame

It's not surprising that PR companies prefer to be paid for their time rather than their results. But in New York the memorably named, Reed Trencher, boss of a PR company called Primetime, is attracting attention by asking his clients only to pay him if he gets them good publicity. His fees are set by the advertising rates of the media which carry the stories, and he doesn't take on clients in whom he thinks the media won't be interested.

Tell us more...

The Broadcasters' Audience Research Board, which publishes TV ratings, is planning to draw much more information from its 3,000-strong audience panel.

Broadcasters are coming round to the ad agencies' view that the panel should also supply data about their lifestyles and purchasing habits as well as their TV watching habits.

Briefing...

Having just notched up a record 340,000 circulation, the British version of *Elle* is planning a 366-page October issue with a 64-page men's fashion supplement, *Elle Pour Homme*... former Tube producer, Malcolm Gerrie, now running a new independent pop TV production company, Initial Television, has persuaded Channel 4 to screen the Martin Scorsese-directed Michael Jackson special, *BAD*, next month... give-away magazine specialist, Redwood Publishing, is launching a glossy in-store magazine for Marks and Spencer this autumn, free to account customers, which will set an interesting M&S precedent by carrying advertising for branded goods not available in their stores... the BBC, the IBA and ITV are to meet next month to discuss new joint guidelines for covering sponsored events and accepting sponsorship finance for programmes... IPC is considering turning its fashion quarterly, *Folio*, into a monthly magazine next year... Granada's underperforming ad sales department has appointed ad agency, WCRS, for a major campaign to promote the north west as a booming region.

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Applications from candidates with a background in the performing arts will be particularly welcome. A degree or equivalent professional qualification is required.

This is a newly created post funded jointly by Lincolnshire County Council and Lincolnshire and Humberside Arts.

This is a re-advertisement, previous applicants need not re-apply. Application forms and job description are available from the County Personnel Office, County Offices, Newark, Lincoln, LN1 1YL. Telephone (0522) 522231 (24 hour service). Please quote SL323. Closing date: 25th August, 1987.

Lincolnshire County Council

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Excellent opportunities exist for the job to grow in line with this superb Development which features luxury villas, town houses and apartments as well as a golf course and a Sheraton Hotel.

The total package will consist of a negotiable salary plus commission. References will be required.

Applications in writing to: Pine Cliffs Recruitment
c/o MAP,
62, Oxford St.
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Quoting PCA.

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LES MERCHANT

Leicester (0533) 544193

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ATA SELECTION AND MANAGEMENT SERVICES LTD

4th Floor, 13/15 Belvoir Street,

Leicester. LE1 6SL

(out of hours answering service)

ATA SERVICES LIMITED

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The applicant must have a proven track record, - preferably in the real estate/investment industry with international experience - be highly motivated with strong career ambitions, be responsible and conscientious, and have the ability to converse in more than one language.

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FRANKLY, YOU'RE SICK OF IT

P.A. to the Chairman can be quite a hectic life. There comes a point where you say "I'm sick of it", but then you think, "But the money's so good".

Have you considered temping? Top director level secretaries are earning £8,500 an hour for temporary work. A few quick runs, you'll realise that's more than £15K p.a.

So you can still earn top money, but without the heavy load of responsibility. You move around every 2-3 weeks to new and interesting assignments. And if you want to take days or weeks off - it's up to you.

Why not come down to Covent Garden for a chat about temping? In complete confidence of course.

This could be the positive change you need.

Amanda

Barrington. She's fussy, because you are. Call her today - 01-379 7007

Fast Cars...

£11,000 plus benefits

This is an exhilarating front-line role with an abundance of scope for personality and panache. The company handles car sales to UK visitors for a major overseas manufacturer. As PA to MD you will play a central role in a fast-moving sales-orientated environment and take part in their client presentations. Good administrative skills are also essential. Benefits include large discounts on gifts and car at cost after 1 yr. Shorthand and accurate typing requested. Please telephone 01-493 5787.

GORDON-YATES

Recruitment Consultants

PERSONNEL OPPORTUNITY

We're looking for a young, team-spirited secretary to join the personnel department of an expanding firm of City stockbrokers. By providing vital secretarial back-up to a young and motivated team, you will gain an excellent grounding in all aspects of personnel. You should have first-class secretarial skills, be well educated and have the flexibility and enthusiasm to cope with a large and varied work load. Age range early to mid 20's. Salary range £10-£12,000 + substantial benefits including mortgage subsidy. Please call 588 3535

Crone Corkill

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

PRIVATE SECRETARY

The Chairman of this successful Fashion Company needs an experienced Secretary. Numerate, literate, articulate and able to withstand the pressures of a high profile boss. Excellent negotiable salary. In the first instance, write with full details to: Mr J Yetzes, 31 East Castle Street, London W1N 7PD

STARRING ROLE FILM PR

Amazing promotional event, dealing with the Press and New York on behalf of this extremely lively, often hectic, famous film and video co.

Based in West London, your day will be truly exciting and demanding. We are seeking an ambitious and lively young secretary with excellent shorthand skills for this role.

If this sounds like you, call Lesa on 01-379 0244

Christopher Keston Rec Cons

PA/SECRETARY

for MD of Public Finance, Investment and Property PA Secretary with a degree of finance/management. Love of responsibility and total involvement in all aspects of his work, which can be hectic at times. Good secretarial skills including shorthand essential. Aged 23-30. Excellent salary + benefits. Please apply in the first instance to: London Davis, Hammer House, 21 Manchester Square, London W1A 2ED. Telephone 01 488 1288

Creative Spirit!

Board-level - £10,500

The company is exceptional: a UK advertising agency with a world reputation for breaking-taking creativity in advertising. The job too is awe-inspiring: working at Board-level in their Creative Department - where the campaign ideas are forged and developed. Looking for a PA role with a difference? Looking for real creative stimulation and involvement? Look no further. Smart, stylish, extrovert... with excellent keyboard skills? Call today. 01-409 1232.

Recruitment Consultants
in the Communications Industry

Far-Away Shores

£10,500

Our client is a world leader in hotel and travel reservation, providing a unique service to the international business community. They now seek an exceptional PA to work at Director level in their busy London office. This is a demanding, stimulating position for someone with a love of variety, a cool head and a capacity for pressure. Some of the work is confidential. Languages would be useful although not essential. Good skills (shorthand is not required) and good work record requested. Please call 01-493 0713.

MERRYWEATHER ADVERTISING & SELECTION

MERRYWEATHER

THE Ritz in the city

PERSONNEL OFFICER

£13-15,000

Leading City software house specialising in the banking and stockbroking fields at an international level offer an excellent career move. Whilst advising Line Management on general personnel matters, you will also be responsible for recruitment, the development of computerised systems and the promotion of a new training department. For this exciting opportunity you are seeking a career minded candidate ideally in their late 20's with 3 years relevant personnel experience. For full details call 01 628 1313 and 01 283 1515

NYTZ RECRUITMENT, 123 MIDDLESEX STREET, BISHOPSGATE, LONDON E1 7AF. TELEPHONE 01-428 1313

PERSONNEL PA

£12,500

Covent Garden communications co needs quality PA. Organise pleasant lady director. High admin content, with challenges, for clever, collected type. 100/60wpm & WP will suit. 5 wks trial. Call RACHEL CASS 01 498 2531

Office Angels
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

INTERNATIONAL INSURANCE

Salary £8,500 to £9,250

We are looking for a well educated, efficient, energetic person (22+) with good secretarial skills and numeracy to join a friendly but busy team as assistant to two underwriters. Languages and word processing abilities are an advantage but not essential. Good training provided. Please send CV and covering letter to: Mrs C. Ballion, Thomas Miller & Co, International House, 26 Creech Lane, London EC3A 5BA.

TOP SECRETARY NIGHTINGALE SECRETARIAT BERKELEY SQUARE

We need a capable and ambitious secretary to join our team in managing and promoting our expanding centre.

Successful applicants will have an excellent knowledge of WP with a minimum of 3 years exp, as well as the ability to deal with people at all levels. If you are aged 22-30 & keen to progress we offer our salary, car, dress allowance etc.

Write today enclosing CV and giving daytime tel number to: Ref JLSB, Nightingale Secretariat, 3 Berkeley Square, London W1.

DIRECTOR'S SECRETARY

WE'LL PUT YOUR CAREER INTO A HIGHER PROFILE WATERLOO

31 is an independent private sector company dedicated to providing long-term investment capital as well as advice to companies of all sizes. Our successful organisation is committed to growth and has a reputation for growing some of the brightest people in the business!

We're now looking for a very experienced Secretary, who will enjoy a position of high profile, working for two Directors at our busy Waterloo head office and offering real interest and scope.

This challenging and highly visible role will be ideal for someone with exceptional interpersonal skills complemented by the good abilities in shorthand, word processing, audio, and routine secretarial duties. Working in a pressurised environment, you'll frequently be called upon to demonstrate your initiative as a member of a fast moving team.

Consequently, you'll need to be a pro-active individual with excellent communication skills and the ability to assume responsibility for several operational procedures.

If you have good secretarial experience, where you have been dealing with people at a senior level, this could be your next logical career move.

To convince you of this fact, we'll offer you an excellent salary to match your experience and qualifications. Plus a benefits package which includes free lunches and attractive financial benefits including staff house loan scheme, non-contributory pension scheme and free private medical insurance.

Make your move by sending a comprehensive CV to Kathleen Rawle, Investors in Industry, 91 Waterloo Road, London SE1 8XP.

31

A WEALTH OF EXPERIENCE

HIGH PROFILE ROLE FOR RECEPTIONIST/TELEPHONIST

£8,500 City based

Here's a superb opportunity to join National Home Loans, a dynamic go-ahead company which, since our establishment in 1985, has grown to become one of the leading, most profitable names in the mortgage market.

In our business, first impressions count for everything and you will be the crucial link between the company and our many highly prestigious customers, including directors, bankers, solicitors and leading financial experts. So you must be smart, extremely presentable and full of confidence. You'll also possess an infinite capacity to remain calm and collected in an environment which is always busy and often highly pressurised.

An excellent telephone manner and experience of handling a busy switchboard goes without saying. You'll be in your early twenties with the enthusiasm and drive to tackle a job which is definitely not run of the mill.

In return we are offering a competitive salary, some attractive benefits and a first class, modern working environment. Interested? Please send a full CV to Mandy Wheatley, Personnel Officer at our Head Office, National Home Loans, St. Catherine's Court, Herbert Road, Solihull, West Midlands B91 3QE.

National Home Loans

Brimful Of Ideas?

£10,000

Looking for a real outlet for your creativity and enthusiasm? This small professional body is presently enjoying a renaissance - new ideas, exciting plans; lots of newly-won recognition and success. Their role is to promote and develop management excellence at all levels. As Admin Assistant you will handle a lot of administration (training courses etc), develop systems and contribute throughout. Warm and caring approach? Computer literacy? Accurate skills? Find out more today on 01-493 0713.

MERRYWEATHER ADVERTISING & SELECTION

MERRYWEATHER

Mary Overton

YOUR CHANCE TO JOIN ONE OF LONDON'S TOP SEC TEAMS

MARY OVERTON RECRUITMENT LIMITED 35 PICCADILLY LONDON W1V 9PB 01-734 7282

Super job, super salary to match. Major British international group, HQ'd in Mayfair and one of the country's top employers. As Secretary to the Assistant Company Secretary you need to be well spoken, enthusiastic, have good typing skills and be good at administration and getting on with others.

Experience on the Co Sec side would help too - is not essential. Age 25-35. Fill the bit, and you'll never look back. So ring NOW.

CALLING ALL WALLABIES!

£8,000+ excellent benefits

Over from Australia? This could be the ideal opportunity to work for a friendly Australian bank in the heart of the City. Based in reception, you will answer the switchboard, meet and greet visitors and use the WP for overflow of typing. Early/late appointments arranged.

Elizabeth Hunt

Recruitment Consultants
2 Bow Lane London EC4

SECRETARIAL VACANCIES

Kent and South East London

Immediate start for

MARKETING, ADVERTISING, LEGAL, ESTATE AGENTS, TRAVEL, PHARMACEUTICAL.

Free CV service
Free job list available
Ring 01-859 0130

TRADING FLOOR

£10,500 + bonus

Join the hectic pace of a bank trading floor. Team minded secretary (Wang) needed to work under pressure in male dominated environment.

FINANCE DIRECTOR Delegation is a priority in this Director's day. A graphics and printing suppliers needs a secretary to undertake a multitude of tasks.

TRADE ASSOCIATION The Director General deals with 65 countries around the world. He needs a PA/Secretary who can ratify through the paper work, set up itineraries and run an International Conference.

PHOTO LIBRARY Administrator/Secretary with shorthand is needed to contribute new ideas within a small friendly team.

SECRETARIAL SELECTION

01-493 2545

RECEPTIONIST

We are a leading firm of Executive Recruitment Consultants who need a well spoken, smart and highly efficient person to cope with a busy Regent switchboard and run our reception. A good salary will be paid according to age and experience plus benefits which include a free lunch.

Please send me your CV so that I may include you on our shortest for interview.
Mr N. James, Company Secretary,
Marlar International Ltd,
14 Grosvenor Place,
London SW1X 7HH.

INTERNATIONAL MARKET RESEARCH

(Salary c£8,500 + bonus)

Small friendly, market research agency in South Kensington urgently needs two WP operators. Varied workload involving report production, project administration, international communications and general secretarial duties.

If you are young and keen with 'O' levels, good typing and a flexible attitude please phone
Helen Burling on 581 4938.

THE BURLINGTON MAGAZINE

RECEPTIONIST/SECRETARY

Energetic and responsible receptionist/secretary required for leading art magazine. Must be confident and have the ability to deal with people and communicate well. Good educational standard, with accurate typing and basic administrative skills. Salary £8,000. Lunchtime vouchers and 4 weeks annual holiday.

Please write with your CV, to
Miss K. Trevelyan, The Burlington Magazine,
6 Bloomsbury Square, London WC1A 2LP.

DIRECTOR'S SECRETARY

An excellent opportunity has arisen within a major American bank for a bright director level secretary with previous banking experience who is ready to make the next career move.

This is a new position, working for the Vice President, within the marketing division. The successful candidate will have the initiative to set up new systems, arrange complicated travel itineraries and have the confidence to deal with major clients on a daily basis. Applicants should have good secretarial skills (90/60), an excellent telephone manner and an outgoing, cheerful personality.
Age Indicator: 28-30.

Carrington House, 130 Regent Street, LONDON W1R 5FE. Tel: 01-437 1564

MacBlain Nash
WEST END
Recruitment
Consultants

1987 Graduate No Ordinary Secretary, No Ordinary Job

City of London c£9,000

English & American Insurance Group PLC is a professional reinsurance organisation operating in the London international market.

We now have an excellent opportunity in London for an enthusiastic graduate with typing skills to carry out a secretarial/administrative role for the Director of our Systems Division. This Position will offer a wide variety of duties and scope to develop for the future.

In addition to salary we offer an attractive benefits package which includes annual bonus, private medical scheme, non-contributory pension fund, free life assurance and LVs.

If you feel that this position is of interest and that you possess the qualities necessary to take on this challenging role, please telephone for an application form or write with full cv to Caroline Harrison, Personnel Officer, English & American Insurance Group PLC, English & American House, Bruton Way, Gloucester GL1 1DA. Tel: 0452 503131.

English & American Insurance Group

ACCOUNTS ASSISTANT/SECRETARY

Salary Scale £8,649 - £11,308 p.a. TAX FREE

The International Oil Pollution Compensation Fund, closely linked to the International Maritime Organization of the United Nations, situated in S.E.1, is looking for an Accounts Assistant/Secretary for its Finance Officer.

The position will be filled as from 2nd November, 1987, or earliest. The person appointed will undertake book-keeping duties to Trial Balance stage and should be able to use IBM PC XT Lotus Symphony to establish and operate a computerised accounts system. General secretarial duties will also be involved (shorthand/ audio an advantage). Experience in the use of IBM Displaywriter and PC is desirable, but training will be given if necessary.

Complete proficiency in English is required. As the Organisation has English and French as official languages, a working knowledge of French would be an asset. The post demands the ability to work under pressure.

The salary is net of U.K. income tax, with considerable benefits including 6 weeks annual leave. The actual salary offered will depend on age and experience.

Please apply in writing with C.V. by 4th September to the
INTERNATIONAL OIL POLLUTION COMPENSATION FUND,
4 Albert Embankment, London, SE1 7SB.

Television Marketing £9,000

This is an excellent opportunity for a well-organised young secretary to gain a thorough grounding in marketing. As support to this busy marketing department, you will need all your skills to arrange the team's travel and presentations. Marketing potential and patience will be rewarded as the next step could be junior trainee!

Age: 20-24

Skills: 100/60

RECRUITMENT 5 GARRICK STREET COVENT GARDEN - COMPANY TEL: 01-481 1220

THE LANGUAGE SPECIALISTS

TRANSLATOR: Exp transl with French + German + two other Euro langs for intl City co. Excl sal + large co benefits.

FRENCH: Int'l City bank require French sec (S/H asset) for young managerial team. Energy + team spirit ess. £10,500 + top bene. GERMAN: 2 top c/l secs for excl posts with lots of scope. (Know Spanish an asset for 1). East + North London. £8,000-10,000 ann.

ITALIAN: Senior audio for well known int'l London co. Friendly if hectic environment. £12,000 esse.

MERROW ENGLAVY 7 HENRIETTA PLACE, W1 01 638 1467

SECRETARY/ASSISTANT

for busy SW1 Estate Agents. Must have enthusiasm and be prepared to assist in all departments. WP experience. Excellent salary by arrangement. Call Eric Batt 730 6191

BELGRAVIA SHERATON HOTEL

requires

A SECRETARY TO THE GENERAL MANAGER

Successful applicant must have very good organising and administration skills for this varied and challenging position. Please contact Doreen Boulton, General Manager, for further details on 01-235 6040, 20 Chestnut Place, London SW1.

01-481 4481

LA CRÈME DE LA CRÈME

01-481 4481

DRAKE PERSONNEL

The People People

READY FOR MANAGEMENT?

£9,500 + Mortgage Subsidy

No previous management experience required to secure your chance to step up to the plate with this large and successful building property company. It is a sale up to you to get the department running efficiently and when you are ready to supervise a team of staff and a helping hand from the senior management team should you need it. For a real career. All confidential work will be undertaken by you as a shareholder and typing one necessary for 20% of your day of account. The position carries superb perks so if you are ready for a step up into management.

Call Francesca Peters on 01-831 6666

MARKETING CAREER

Your top educational and professional skills will be the stepping stone to a marketing career. Our client, a world famous communications company needs your abilities to work with their Marketing Manager on a sales development for television. They expect you to develop out of secretarial into a sales role. For a real career. Call Margaret Williams on 01-831 6666.

OLD FASHIONED VALUES

£11,000

Do you have old fashioned values? Are you loyal, courteous, smart and responsible? This upmarket company desperately needs a PA. Just like you to run the office and supervise a junior receptionist. If you have good shorthand, typing and W.P. and would like a varied position.

Call Mary Forster on 01-734 0911.

ADVERTISING LEADER

£10,000

Step into the world of advertising as PA to the Director of one of London's largest agencies. The position is newly created and the PA is the link between the young, the young and friendly, incorporating a social environment in the agency. If you have a good W.P. and typing skills and a good attitude.

Call Jo Nichols on 01-629 4031.

ENTREPRENEUR

£11,000

If variety is the key and dealing with top level management, then this is the place to be. Learn about a wide range of industries by assisting the young Chairman with your shorthand and common sense at a senior level. Great scope for development.

Call Sue Lewis on 01-734 0911.

ROCK WORLD

£11,000

What an opportunity! When you meet this professional gentleman with the organisation of rock concerts world-wide, he will need to be smart and have excellent organisational skills when putting the whole show together. A strong business mind and interest in music, their image is up to you. Shorthand, and typing needed.

Call Francesca Peters on 01-734 0911.

PA IN PUBLISHING

£10.5K

Use your extensive experience and expertise to meet full when you join this international company. As PA to the Commercial Director you will be responsible for all the administrative, the day, travel arrangements and client liaison. If you enjoy a professional atmosphere with excellent perks and you have good typing and W.P. skills.

Call Sharon on 01-221 5072

PROSPECTS FOR MANAGEMENT

c. £11,000

Have you got what it takes to run the show? This is a starting, expanding company need an office manager to take charge of personnel, P.P., sales, enquiries, all administrative - you name it. You'll be doing it all with a flexible attitude and with good typing, call this unusual opportunity.

Call Sue Lintorn on 01-734 0911.

TRAIN IN HOTEL PERSONNEL

c. £10,000

Amazing opening to join top West End Hotel as personnel assistant. In this lively, hectic division. Plenty of responsibility and involvement. Plus an opportunity for progression for someone with excellent secretarial skills (proof including shorthand and cursive) intelligent attitude. Perks include free lunch.

Call Sonia Bratslavsky on 01-734 0911.

EXHIBITION ADMINISTRATOR

£9,000 at 20!!

'Not enough experience?' too young or too old? Sound familiar? Well, here is a company that we have all longed to work for with appropriate capabilities and attitude first. With typing only, use your personal skills to help organise these monthly exhibitions and learn them well. All over the U.K. In fact, no two days will be the same here and you will be able to do all the but have not yet been able to find a suitable company.

Call Francesca Peters on 01-831 6666.

Be seen with the right company

College Leaver
£7,500 neg + bonus

This is a super opportunity within an expanding and progressive financial company near Victoria for an audio college leaver who would enjoy plenty of telephone liaison. There is scope to get very involved and prospects to better oneself within the company.

STELLA FISHER
01-836 6644

PA in Music Publishing
To £10,000

An interest in classical music will make your job within this musical body even more interesting. You will be working for a delightful Managing Director who will be looking for assistance with telephone liaison, his appointments and supervising royalty payments. Good secretarial skills (see Shorthand) are required plus diplomacy and initiative.

STELLA FISHER
01-836 6644

Property Secretary
Chancery Lane
£8,500 - £10,000

An articulate intelligent and serious-minded secretary with P.A. potential is sought by this new and rapidly expanding Estate Agency network.

Responsible to 2 busy public relations in the financial services division will give you the opportunity of providing your capabilities. Ideally 2 to 3 years commercial experience combined with sound shorthand knowledge of IBM PC is required. Contact: Jackie Leighton.

STELLA FISHER
01-836 6644

In the City

POSITIVELY PORSCHE c.£12,000

Move out of Secretarial into a world of high salaries and fast cars

The Eurobond Market in London is exciting, fast moving and yields particularly high rewards for the successful. This unusual vacancy offers you the chance to eventually earn your own share of the profits in this lucrative market. As Secretary to a small Eurobonds team with this British Merchant Bank, renowned for its innovative and individual style,

there is a definite possibility that you will be promoted to the position of Trading Assistant, once you have learned how the business works and proved your enthusiasm, dedication and flair. You will be working on Marketing/Business Development, which involves extensive client contact and administrative support. Speeds 80/50. Age 20 - 23.

FINESSE APPOINTMENTS
01-499 3531/3551

OUTSTANDING SEC/PA TO MANAGE OFFICE
£16,000 - £20,000

Small, rapidly growing firm requires highly-motivated PA to take charge of office and develop into professional assistant and business manager. You should be a perfectionist who learns quickly and is thoroughly experienced in office administration, has perfect grammar/spelling, is numerate and can use and learn W.P. and other computerised office techniques. You must be an intelligent and highly-organised self-starter with pleasant personality and a sense of humour to produce top quality work under pressure in an unperpetrated environment.

The position is London-based, but you should be willing to travel if necessary. As you develop in the job you will assume greater business and professional responsibilities for the firm and its clients, including hiring, supervising and training additional staff, organising and documenting company meetings, establishing new companies and organising business and social functions.

You must be prepared to work whatever hours are required to get important jobs done on time, including some weekends. In return for your total commitment, you will be financially well-rewarded, with annual increases and bonuses that fully recognise your contributions as an integral part of a highly successful international team.

If you don't yet qualify for this position but would be interested in working for such a firm, please so indicate in your covering letter. Reply only with current C.V. and letter describing other relevant details to B.A. Fildes, 5 The Poshen, Wood Street, London EC2Y 8BJ

Applications to be considered commencing 19th August.

SENIOR SECRETARIES

The British Petroleum Company p.l.c., is seeking a limited number of Senior Secretaries to supplement a small team of Relief Staff which provides cover in the absence of Chief Executives' Secretaries. Excellent all round skills, including word processing and shorthand at 100 w.p.m. will be necessary.

Applicants should have 5/6 years secretarial experience and have the confidence and ability to deal with staff at all levels. A mature, professional attitude is required and smart appearance is essential.

In return, you will receive a competitive salary and London Allowance and a range of benefits including subsidised staff restaurant, non-contributory pension scheme and superb sports and social facilities.

If you feel you have the right skills and personality, please telephone or write for an Application Form to: Mrs. V. Castro, The British Petroleum Company p.l.c., Britannic House, Moor Lane, London EC2Y 9BU; Tel. No. 01-920 2468.

BP is an equal opportunity employer.

Britain at its best.

BP

A great opportunity for an experienced Secretary

Mayfair c. £10,500 plus benefits

Total Oil Marine is a highly successful subsidiary of the worldwide TOTAL Energy Group, currently involved in the exciting development of a major North Sea Field. One of our secretaries has just been promoted and we need to find someone to replace her. The job is at our modern Head Office at Berkeley Square and couldn't be more central. Right in the heart of the West End and really close to the central shopping area and main tube routes. Your job will be to help our Technical Co-ordination Manager, and give a full secretarial service. You'll also get some help from an assistant whose workload you'll plan from day to day.

We'd like you to have at least two years' secretarial experience and W.P. skills. We'll train you on the very latest office equipment, and before long you'll be using an IBM personal computer. And if you can speak some French as well, then so much the better! It's an exciting and rewarding job and you won't be short of responsibility. In addition to the salary, there is an excellent benefits package including BUPA, Luncheon Vouchers, 25 days holiday and a particularly lively sports and social club.

If you are interested, please send details of your age, experience, qualifications and current salary to Patty Comyn, Total Oil Marine plc, Berkeley Square House, Berkeley Square, London W1X 6LT.

TOTAL
Total Oil Marine

PRIVATE CLIENTS £18,000 Package

A well known Investment Company is looking for a PA/Secretary to work within a small young team which deals with private clients. An unusual job, as you'll be working with the team as opposed to them; getting immersed in all their projects. In order to be the nucleus of this high powered group, you will need to be organised, have excellent secretarial skills and be totally dependable. Age c.24. Speeds 100/60.

SMALL HEADHUNTERS £14,000

A small company of 16 is looking for a Secretary/PA to act as the right-hand to their young director of 28. You will be helping him in all aspects of his work and looking after the office in his absence. As well as the usual secretarial duties, you will be involved in some research work; shortlisting and assessing of candidates and fixing up appointments and interviews for your boss. The offices are stunning and there is a real family atmosphere. Age c.26. Speeds 100/60.

Please call us for an interview until 6.00pm.

LONDON BRUSSELS

FLASH!

Highly successful, fast moving and expanding specialist retail company, soon to take up superb offices in W1, is looking for a promising Secretary/Administrative Assistant, to work with their charming Personnel and Administration Manager. This is a new position offering tremendous scope and opportunity to an enthusiastic and ambitious secretary with a flair for new technology, communicating on all levels and setting up systems. Good skills of 80/60/W.P. + proven sec. exp. Salary £11,500 + good benefits, excellent training and the challenge of working for a forward thinking and progressive company with a very exciting future! Age 24-30. Please call

437 6032

HOBSTONES
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

RESPONSIBILITY REPAID

Responsibility and flexibility are essential when you're a secretary in an important temporary assignment.

As one of London's leading temporary agencies for top level secretaries we can offer you a wide range of senior assignments.

We pay the full market rate and, in addition, offer a non-contributory holiday pay scheme and free word processor cross training.

Resp the rewards today and phone 01-439 0601.

Carrington House, 130 Regent Street, LONDON W1 Tel: 01-439 0601 (Entrance in Regent Place above Iberis, Always)

MacBlain NASH Temporary Secretaries

BEADY EYED BOSS?

One day, the boss... beady eyes can get too much for you. That's the day you should call Amanda. Tell her the sort of boss you'd like to work for. The sort of environment you'd love. Chances are, it'll be in the advertising, fashion or media scene. And chances are, Amanda will know of just the job. She's a fancy lady though. She won't send you on a single interview until she's convinced it's right for you.

So don't dither. Call the number now... well, maybe you should wait 'till Beady's left the office...

Amanda
Barrington
(01) 379 7007
She's fancy, because you are.

PA/Secretary

If you are an efficient, dynamic and dedicated PA, with good secretarial skills and feel that you could assist this hectic Fashioning Director, please apply in writing to: B. R. Hancock, Mansfield Originals, 15-16 Margaret Street, London W1. Telephone 01-580 1951/2/3.

Senior Personal Secretary

FREIGHT DIVISION LONDON NW1

£9,170 p.a. to £9,700 p.a. (pay award pending)

The British Waterways Board are responsible for 2,000 miles of inland waterways in England, Scotland and Wales.

Applications are invited for this varied and interesting post which has arisen for a competent and experienced shorthand secretary to undertake a full range of secretarial duties for the Board's Director of Freight at our Headquarters in Marylebone.

The salary and benefits package is attractive and includes a contributory pension scheme.

Please write for an application form, returnable by 26th August, to Personnel Planning Manager, British Waterways Board, Willow Grange, Church Road, Watford, Herts. WD1 3QA, quoting Reference No. 15/18.

An equal opportunities employer.

CAROLINE KING

TRAINEE LEGAL £10,500

Use all your secretarial and administrative expertise in this top firm of international lawyers. Client liaison galore, a fun crowd and attractive perks. Copy, audio and W.P.

MEDIA/PR £10,000

As PA to the MD you'll be organising press releases, conferences, functions and liaising with numerous exciting clients. Beautiful offices and terrific crowd. 50 wpm typing.

PROPERTY £10,500

Terrific opportunity to join one of London's most successful property firms. As PA to one of their partners you'll be involved in high million pound projects. He's a joy to work for and really gets you involved. 90/50 + W.P. exp.

OPEN LATE TONIGHT UNTIL 7PM

please telephone: 01-499 8870
87 New Bond Street London W.1.
CAROLINE KING SECRETARIAL APPOINTMENTS

Art Gallery Admin Assistant

This is a lovely job, working in beautiful surroundings amongst intelligent and dedicated people. The Gallery is Mayfair-based, specialising in 18/19th century pictures. Your role is 70% admin: helping to set up exhibitions (very much a team effort); organising export licences; shipping goods overseas; preparing catalogues; dealing with clients etc. Common sense, a quick mind and the ability to work well under pressure are all essential. Skills 90/60. Salary £9,000. Please call 01-493 0713.

MERRYWEATHER ADVERTISING & SELECTION

MERRYWEATHER

SECRETARY WITH PHOTOGRAPHIC EXPERIENCE

Required to assist world famous fashion, beauty and portrait photographer based in W1 art gallery. Must have good typing skills. Salary £8,500.

Telephone 01 491 2086

DIRECTOR SEC £10,000

Your top consulting boss relies on you heavily! Meet his high standards with bright, competent approach, excellent command English & W.P. exp. 50% organisation. Team environment. W1.

Call CAROLINE LE SUEUR 01 629 0777

Office Angels
SECRETARIAL CONSULTANTS

IN AT THE TOP £13,000

A leading executive search consultancy seeks a confident, PA to assist their senior partner. You should be a perfectionist with excellent organisational and communication skills. Become involved in all aspects of the company's activities: leading marketing, sales and personnel. Beautiful hi-tech surroundings. Excellent benefits including S.T.L. and discounts on products. 60/100 skills and W.P. experience needed.

HEAVEN SCENT £12,000

An exciting opportunity to join this famous cosmetic house as PA to the managing director. You should be well groomed with excellent organisational and communication skills. Become involved in all aspects of the company's activities: leading marketing, sales and personnel. Beautiful hi-tech surroundings. Excellent benefits including S.T.L. and discounts on products. 60/100 skills and W.P. experience needed.

Please telephone 01-240 3511
Early/late appointments arranged.

Elizabeth Hunt
Recruitment Consultants
2-3 Bedford Street London WC2

TRAINING ASSISTANT £10,500

You are an excellent organiser, 24+ with an interest in Personnel and training to assist the training manager of a major company with new recruits. You will liaise with universities, and enjoy working on your own initiative. W.P. skills needed, shorthand useful.

City 377 8600
West End 439 7001

SECRETARIES PLUS
The Secretarial Consultants

P & O Cruises Limited

We have limited vacancies on board our cruise ships operating worldwide for JUNIOR ASSISTANT PURSERS.

Applicants who should be between 21 and 26 years of age are required to possess secretarial skills of 60wpm typing, 80 wpm shorthand. Experience of hotel reception duties with computerised procedures plus cash handling experience (preferably in a foreign currency) is essential. Fluency in a foreign language (Spanish or Italian preferred) is a distinct advantage.

Apply in writing to:

Fleet Personnel Department (MLT),
P & O Lines,
Dukes Keet, Marsh Lane,
Southampton SO9 4GU.

INTERNATIONAL OIL COMPANY

Is seeking an ambitious young college leaver with two years working experience to advance already excellent secretarial skills into senior secretarial responsibilities. The post will require 80/50 and typing skills with minimum speeds of 80/50 and an ability to maintain a high degree of accuracy under pressure.

It is a unique opportunity for a self-motivated and intelligent young secretary to achieve wide-ranging responsibilities and involvement in this rapidly expanding company.

An extremely competitive salary is offered.

Please call Christine Ramsey on 01-499 9656 or send C.V. to Proteus Petroleum Limited, 7 Old Park Lane, London, W1Y 3LJ.

YOUNG CAREERS AT JAYGAR

Party Organiser £10,000
Music Management £8,000
Conferences £8,000
Interior Design £8,000
Press & P.R. £10,000
Property Development £8,000

All these vacancies need secretarial skills

01-730 5148 (Rec. Con.)

JAYGAR

DUTCH

Fluent English and Dutch speaking PA required by MD of Co based in Surrey. Good skills plus sense of humour for a varied role.

ITALIAN

MD of international bank seeks bright young Italian speaking Sec. Lots of room to grow and improve through this role (if/when necessary) College leavers considered.

GERMAN

Top producer in music ind. needs German speaking PA. W.P. experience, personality. No s/he. Good prospects and travel.

SPANISH

MD of international bank seeks bright young Spanish speaking Sec. Lots of room to grow and improve through this role (if/when necessary) College leavers considered.

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CAN YOU HELP US MAKE HEADLINES?

Secretaries and a Receptionist for International Public Relations Consultants.

As one of the world's leading international public relations consultancies, our job is to serve an expanding portfolio of blue chip clients. And to help us, we need experienced secretaries and a receptionist.

SECRETARIES

We have positions for secretaries in all eight specialist divisions of the consultancy. All the positions require the accurate typing and word processing (We will cross-train on our Wang WZ2 if necessary) a disciplined, well-organised approach to the work and a cheerful personality.

EDELMAN

PUBLIC RELATIONS CONSULTANTS

Stanhope House, Stanhope Place, London, W2 2HL Telephone: 01-723 3444.

RECEPTIONIST

We also need a second bright, intelligent receptionist to welcome visitors, clients and the occasional VIP and to operate our Monarch switchboard. The hours for this particular job are 8.30 to 4.30.

All the above positions carry attractive salary packages, excellent prospects and valuable employee benefits.

For further information on any of these vacancies contact Jane Orr or Diane Wright on 01-723 3444.

If you have the right experience then here's an exciting opportunity to experience the world of PR.

Exciting new venture Euston Business Centre

Support Team

£10,500

Grant Thornton is a leading firm of chartered accountants, financial advisors and management consultants. Our London office has just moved to Euston and we are taking the opportunity to create a prestigious Business Centre as part of our new building.

The Centre will provide a comprehensive range of business services and facilities, including secretarial support, conference rooms and communication services, to companies who need them in a Central London location.

To help launch this new venture and ensure its success we are seeking two high calibre people to join the Business Centre Support team. We are looking for people aged 25 years or over who:

- Have good secretarial skills, including shorthand and word processing (Minimum 60 wpm Typing + 90 wpm Shorthand)
- Can demonstrate a strong command of spoken and written English (other business languages would be useful)
- Enjoy working as part of a team

- Have high standards of personal presentation and job professionalism
 - Have experience of client contact in a front-line role.
- In addition, the job requires outgoing personalities who enjoy dealing with people at all levels. Full commitment to the success of the venture is also essential as is a flexible approach.

In return, we offer

- A starting salary of £10,500 pa
- 4 weeks holiday per year
- Season Ticket Loan
- Free Life Assurance
- Modern, well equipped offices next to Euston Station
- Subsidised catering facilities

If you think you can contribute to this exciting new venture, please send full CV and current salary details to: Dorothy Foote, Senior Personnel Officer, Grant Thornton House, Melton Street, Euston Square, London NW1 2EP.

Grant Thornton

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

Nobody gets closer to clients

COMPUTER COMPANY REQUIRES TWO SECRETARIES/PA'S

The Marketing and Financial Directors of expanding computer company each need a Secretary/PA to manage their time and organise their paperwork.

You will therefore need to be able to:

- ★ deal with people pleasantly, confidently and efficiently on the telephone;
- ★ produce accurately spelt and typed letters, from both dictated and own notes;
- ★ provide support in managing departmental staff;
- ★ deal efficiently with administrative routines associated with a busy office.

We have the latest technology here to help you. The salary is negotiable and there are generous fringe benefits.

Write to Tony Styles, UCL Group PLC, 23 Paradise Street, London, SE16 4QD. Or telephone Bernadette Bell on 01-232 1155.

SECRETARY TO MANAGING DIRECTOR

Islington N7

CRANKS WHOLEFOODS, Britain's premier name in vegetarian food products, is seeking a competent secretary for its Managing Director.

The successful candidate will have experience of at least 10/60 and word processing (preferably IBM Displaywriter III), at least one year's experience at a senior level, must be organised and must be able to communicate well with people at all levels. They will enjoy working under pressure and will have a flexible approach in order to cope with the extremely varied nature of the work.

In return we can offer a competitive salary, 20 days holiday, excellent benefits in our retail outlets and the opportunity to develop the position into a full P.A. role.

Apply in writing with full C.V. to: Libby Venn, Personnel Manager, 37 Marshall Street, London W1V 1LL.

Diana Duggan Associates

SMART COLLEGE LEADER WITH SHORTHAND

28,000 Neg

Excellent opportunity for a bright college leaver working for a highly prestigious sports company.

TRAINER RECEPTIONIST

25,000

For top night club company. Very good speaking voice and reasonable typing essential.

Tel: 374 2921 for an immediate interview TODAY.

CHESTERTONS

PRUDENTIAL

Managing Director's Secretary/PA

c. £12,000 p.a.

We are:

- ★ A FAST MOVING BUSINESS
- ★ RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY
- ★ A YOUNG ENVIRONMENT
- ★ HARD WORKING, BUT FUN!

You will need:

- ★ INITIATIVE
- ★ S/H AN ADVANTAGE
- ★ GOOD WP SKILLS
- ★ TO BE SELF-STARTER

If this sounds like you, apply TODAY with full C.V. to:

Nigel Conrad, Managing Director
Chestertons Prudential
40 Connaught Street
London W2 2AB

BARNETT

Personal Ltd, 18 Dover Street, London W1

PA/SECRETARY £11,500

Minimal typing for PA/Sec who can handle travel schedule.

You need to be able to hold the fort in the absence and process good secretarial skills (100/50) although you will compose much of your own correspondence. 50% of your time will be taken up with clients, organising lunches and promotional events.

Please ring Jennie on 629 7838
18 Dover Street, London, W1.
A Recruitment Line Company

OFFICE MANAGER

Could you run a small office for three busy lawyers in Bayswater?

Your work will involve computerised book keeping; use of word processor; receptionist duties. Attractive salary package.

Please write with details to:
Dr. L.Lloyd-Eley,
1(B) Prince Edward Mansions,
Hereford Road, London W2 4EN.

PA/SEC/ ADMINISTRATOR

Experienced person required

by international company of small but dynamic company currently in SE1 but relocating September to SW1.

In addition to PA/secretarial duties (100/60/50) responsibilities include management of office, general book-keeping and payroll duties. As there is extensive international telephone liaison a knowledge of languages is useful but not essential.

Sal neg + bonus + LV's, 4 weeks holiday p.a. Age 28+.

Please telephone
Rose-Marie McMillen
01 928 6574.

No agencies please

'EDUCATION SECRETARY'

For Faculty of Community Medicine

(Hammersmith Campus). Responsibilities will include the organisation and administration of the faculty's membership examinations, widening participation, etc. including the serving of the education committee; and provision of a secretarial service (100/60/50) to the faculty.

For full details of this exciting opportunity, please write to: The Education Secretary, Faculty of Community Medicine, Hammersmith Campus, 100, Baker Street, W1. 01 925 8694.

RECEPTIONIST

Property Company seek well presented, friendly person

to join West End office. Must have excellent telephone manner and confidence to deal with clients. Good typing skills. Age 20ish.

c£9,000.

Telephone: Wendy Toft
01 408 1677
no agencies

Could you help run a small PR Consultancy?

A young and growing PR Consultancy is looking for a confident secretary/PA to the MD. Fast, accurate typing required together with a good telephone manner and a smart appearance. WP experience essential (Microsoft Word preferable). In return salary is £9,500 AAE.

Write with CV to:
Carolanne James,
Communicatix,
219A Kings Road,
London, SW3.
(NO AGENCIES)

ANTHONY COOK BUREAU

Recruitment Consultants

IF YOU CAN IMPRESS US...

We'll impress you - with an offer you can't refuse! Residents, temporary and permanent secretaries with excellent word processing skills, the demand exceeds the supply.

Solutions: We will sponsor selected applicants to be properly trained in one of the leading WP programs, entirely at our expense.

This is not the usual half-hearted offering, but the same intensive, 3-day individual course as those leading companies all over the country by our sister company, Anthony Cook Associates.

We are also very interested to hear from WP secretaries who are already trained in DISPLAYWRITE 3, DISPLAYWRITER and MICROSOFT WORD, as we have HUNDREDS TEMPORARY VACANCIES.

For further details, please telephone Edward Cook on 01-248 3404/3329

Telephone 01-248 3404

United Medical & Dental Schools

SECRETARY TO PROFESSOR OF SURGERY

required to play key supportive role in a small departmental team. You will need good skills (100/60) and a pleasant manner as you will have lots of contact with students, staff and the public.

The post is based at St Thomas's Hospital, close to Waterloo, BR and Tube and many bus routes. We offer a 20% holiday plus extra days at Christmas and Easter. Salary £7721 - £9216 inclusive. Subsidised transport, discount staff shops, library membership and social facilities on site.

For informal chat or to arrange an interview please call Barbara Reid, Department of Surgery, 01-228 9222, 9223, or send your current CV to:

The Staffing Officer,
UMDS,
Lambeth Palace Road,
London SE1 7EH
or
STH/SUR/162

WEST END CONSULTANCY

Solicitors, audio and IBM WP. Salary around £27,500. Age group irrelevant. Start asap.

Ring 438 3367

EXECUTIVE CRÈME

GERMAN BILINGUAL SEC PA

PACKAGE £17,000

As PA to the joint Managing Director of this City Bank use your German on a daily basis. Involvement is guaranteed as he will delegate as much as you can take on. He is involved in admin/personnel/legal and financial matters and is a director of several other companies. You will be left to run his office in his frequent absences; he travels overseas each week.

Package includes mortgage subsidy and bonus. Age 25-30. English shorthand 90 wpm plus German shorthand essential.

01-588 8674

SPANISH/ENGLISH

Bilingual Sec - 2 negotiable - WC1

Enthusiastic, friendly and personable sec required for young firm of lawyers dealing exclusively with Anglo-Spanish work. Must be able to speak Spanish fluently. Good typing skills essential with experience at secretarial level, using WP and sales. Bright modern offices and friendly atmosphere.

Tel: Michael Saul & Associates
01-242 0848

PA TO DIRECTOR

£12,500 + EXC. BENEFITS

Renowned Research Institute is looking for a top class PA. You should have skills of 100/80 and be able to display exceptional administrative and organisational skills. Excellent benefits include BUPA, non-contributory pension and a generous bonus scheme.

Phone Mark Kasper on 724 6225 for further details
Updown Personnel Services, 01 4025 21, London W1R 7TB.

PART TIME VACANCIES

PERSONNEL/FASHION COMPANY

PART-TIME TYPIST

We are looking for a steady, enthusiastic person with a good telephone manner and typing skills to join our busy Personnel Department.

Although the job involves mainly typing admin duties could develop as you gain experience. 3 1/2 days per week we can offer a good rate of pay and staff discounts.

Telephone Personnel Dept on 01 734 8211 Ext 275
Country Casuals, 57 Broadwick Street, London, W1.

RECEPTIONIST/Secretary for W1 Designer, 3 days a week. £5,000 p.a. Part time. Contact on 01-734 8211 Ext 275. Country Casuals, 57 Broadwick Street, London, W1.

PART-TIME editor/secretary for a small, busy firm of accountants. Typing, word processing, general office work. Tel: 01-734 8211 Ext 275. Country Casuals, 57 Broadwick Street, London, W1.

REGENTS PARK

ROYAL INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

Course Administrator required to assist in running management training courses at the RIPA Services Overseas. Varied and interesting work with wide responsibilities requiring initiative and enthusiasm.

Good shorthand and accurate typing. Salary from £7,500 depending upon age and experience.

Telephone Claire Cameron,
01 935 0496

Administrative Officer,
RIPA, Inner Circle,
Regents Park,
London NW1 4NS.
(No Agencies)

Opportunity to use secretarial skills and develop management potential

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Stealing the picture on grass and turf

The two shots that clicked

A forceful shot of Gabriela Sabatini putting all the beef of an athlete reared on Argentinian steaks into her game at Wimbledon, and another timeless moment caught when the Princess Royal parted company with her mount at Towcester, have put two photographers of *The Times* in the prize-winning frame.

Sabatini knew many a hairy moment as she strove to contain the menace from Mikaela Zvereva, aged 16, in the fourth round of the women's singles, and Ian Stewart's study of one of them, published on July 1, has earned him the Nikon award for the United Kingdom's best newspaper picture of Wimbledon fortnight. Stewart was presented with his prize at the International Press Centre in London last night.

The day the Princess went "over the hill" was captured by Hugh Routledge during the Leading Artist Handicap Chase on May 22 and graced our front page the following day. It was judged photograph of the month by Nikon.

Having jumped the final fence on her horse, Cooc Na Cuille, which translates from the Gaelic as "the little wood on top of the hill", the Princess was thrown over the gelding's shoulder and for several strides hung on by the reins. Of several shots of the incident taken by other cameras, this was the one that clicked with the judges.



CYCLING: KELLOGG'S TOUR FIELD FACED WITH A DEMANDING TEST OF ENDURANCE

Elliott leads British charge as favourites fall prey to injury

By Peter Bryan

Many months ago the organizers of the Kellogg's Tour of Britain, which starts today in Edinburgh, sought advice about the 825-mile course from Sean Kelly, computer-rated the world's No. 1 rider.

"Make it tough," was the crisp message from Kelly who uses an economy of words when answering questions. But this giant among cyclists may be hoist by his own petard once the 100 professionals are flagged away this morning on their long ride down the spine of Britain before Sunday's finale in central London.

When Kelly advised a hard course, he had just won the Paris to Nice race for the sixth year and looked set for another outstanding season. Later, in the Tour of Spain, a cyst came between him and his saddle and he had to abandon, missing a fortnight's racing after an operation.

Fit again, the Tour de France promised the big win he wanted. It was not to be, a crash left him with torn shoulder ligaments and while his friend and compatriot, Stephen Roche, went on to victory, Kelly was at home nursing his injured shoulder.

Now with Roche injured and missing the Kellogg's event, Kelly, in normal circumstances, would have been favourite for the five-day race. But his recovery has been slow and he said yesterday: "I'm on a comeback and not 100 per cent fit yet. The Kellogg's race is important to me, of course, and it will be preparation for the world road race championship next month."

"But I was off the bike completely for two weeks after the Tour de France crash and that, for a professional, is a



lifetime. Now I have to regain my fitness. I have just finished a stage race in Spain but it was more a training ride than anything and gave me a chance to test the damaged shoulder.

"It's getting better but on the hills and in the sprints, when you have to pull on the bars, I shall be at a disadvantage."

Kelly is a hard man, seemingly immune to pain, but if he says that he is not 100 per cent then that is the Irishman's natural honesty and nothing to do with blarney.

The foreign representation in this week's race will be surprised at the severity of the hills on the course; short, sharp, shocks face the riders every day and gradients of one in four may see some pedestrians on the ascents.

Roche and Kelly are examples of the broad margin of error, because of potential injuries that makes forecasting difficult. Britain's hopes would automatically centre on Malcolm Elliott, who wore the leader's yellow jersey throughout this year's Milk Race. He returned on Sunday from a long rest abroad following the Tour de France and he, too, does not expect to figure early among the leaders.

His team colleague, Joey McLoughlin, Milk Race winner in 1986, appears to have recovered from his bout of tendonitis and, with recurring approaches from foreign teams, will want to figure in the daily action.

The signs are, though, that overall victory will not be for a Briton. Kelly has the team support to get him through — if that suspect left shoulder

gives no trouble. On paper, at least, the PDM team of Dutch and Swiss riders, led by Steven Rooks, are worth an each way wager as is the Peugeot-Dan Air squad, which includes Pascal Simon and Gilbert Duclos Lassalle.

Dirk Wayenberg, of Belgium, has been chosen as the replacement for his fellow-countryman, Eddy Schepers, in the race. Wayenberg, aged 32, comes from West Flanders, the cobbled roads of which have bred the hardest racing men in Europe.

He will be no stranger to steep hills of the kind the race will offer in the Pennines tomorrow when the race goes from Newcastle to Manchester. Today's opening stage of 117 miles is from Edinburgh to Newcastle-upon-Tyne via Carter Bar (1,200ft).

An Italian cheer for Rosola

San Francisco (Reuters) — Paolo Rosola appropriately won the criterium at Fisherman's Wharf — a stronghold of Italian descent — to give the Italian team their second victory in the Coors international classic.

Rosola, aged 30, who won three stages in the Tour of Italy three months ago, confirmed his status as one of the finest sprinters in the world on the 64km fifth stage when he outkicked Andreas Kappes, of West Germany, the stage winner on Sunday, and Davis Phinney, of the United States.

"This makes up for the disappointment of finishing third to Kappes last time," Rosola said.

However, there was disappointment for Alan McCormack, of Ireland, who won this stage last year, but crashed as he led out the sprint for the finish line.

McCormack, sixth in the overall standings, was not seriously hurt and under race regulations was given the same finishing time as the leading bunch.

This short stage, with another to follow last night after the 170km stage to Sacramento, did not threaten the overall dominance of Jeff Pierce and the American 7-Eleven team.

Pierce lost eight seconds to leading pack, but comfortably kept his 2min 25sec race lead over Andy Hampsten, his team colleague; three Americans were in the top 10.

The only worry to the Americans on these short stages are the 30, 20 and 10sec time bonuses to the top three finishers. "I suppose we still have plenty to learn from the European sprinters," Phinney said.

RESULTS: Fifth stage, Fisherman's Wharf criterium (64.2 km): 1. P. Rosola (ITA) 2. A. Kappes (FRG) 3. D. Phinney (USA) 4. V. Dier (WGT) 5. A. Jagt (NED) 6. R. B. G. (USA) 7. R. B. G. (USA) 8. A. McCormack (IRE) 9. S. R. G. (USA) 10. D. G. (USA) 11. D. G. (USA) 12. D. G. (USA) 13. D. G. (USA) 14. D. G. (USA) 15. D. G. (USA) 16. D. G. (USA) 17. D. G. (USA) 18. D. G. (USA) 19. D. G. (USA) 20. D. G. (USA) 21. D. G. (USA) 22. D. G. (USA) 23. D. G. (USA) 24. D. G. (USA) 25. D. G. (USA) 26. D. G. (USA) 27. D. G. (USA) 28. D. G. (USA) 29. D. G. (USA) 30. D. G. (USA) 31. D. G. (USA) 32. D. G. (USA) 33. D. G. (USA) 34. D. G. (USA) 35. D. G. (USA) 36. D. G. (USA) 37. D. G. (USA) 38. D. G. (USA) 39. D. G. (USA) 40. D. G. (USA) 41. D. G. (USA) 42. D. G. (USA) 43. D. G. (USA) 44. D. G. (USA) 45. D. G. (USA) 46. D. G. (USA) 47. D. G. (USA) 48. D. G. (USA) 49. D. G. (USA) 50. D. G. (USA) 51. D. G. (USA) 52. D. G. (USA) 53. D. G. (USA) 54. D. G. (USA) 55. D. G. (USA) 56. D. G. (USA) 57. D. G. (USA) 58. D. G. (USA) 59. D. G. (USA) 60. D. G. (USA) 61. D. G. (USA) 62. D. G. (USA) 63. D. G. (USA) 64. D. G. (USA) 65. D. G. (USA) 66. D. G. (USA) 67. D. G. (USA) 68. D. G. (USA) 69. D. G. (USA) 70. D. G. (USA) 71. D. G. (USA) 72. D. G. (USA) 73. D. G. (USA) 74. D. G. (USA) 75. D. G. (USA) 76. D. G. (USA) 77. D. G. (USA) 78. D. G. (USA) 79. D. G. (USA) 80. D. G. (USA) 81. D. G. (USA) 82. D. G. (USA) 83. D. G. (USA) 84. D. G. (USA) 85. D. G. (USA) 86. D. G. (USA) 87. D. G. (USA) 88. D. G. (USA) 89. D. G. (USA) 90. D. G. (USA) 91. D. G. (USA) 92. D. G. (USA) 93. D. G. (USA) 94. D. G. (USA) 95. D. G. (USA) 96. D. G. (USA) 97. D. G. (USA) 98. D. G. (USA) 99. D. G. (USA) 100. D. G. (USA)

Juniors show future is picture of health

By Colin McQuillan

If junior world championships are an indication of intrinsic health in a game, the Abbey National women's junior world championships at the University of Sussex in Brighton must herald blossoming prospects for women's squash.

England and Australia duly reached their traditional places in the team finals, beating respectively New Zealand and Canada in the semi-finals. But the removal of Scotland from their fourth-seeded position, the thrust of The Netherlands and West Germany, and the promising arrival of such an unlikely squad as Papua New Guinea to challenge Wales for a midfield ranking, all illustrate the broadening base at this level of the game.

On an individual plane, and from tomorrow these championships convert from team mentality to the deadly cut and thrust of singles competition, there can rarely have been such promise and enthusiasm in the under-19 age group.

Australia are led by Sarah Fitzgerald, an elegant but venomous teenage player from Melbourne, already challenging the top 10 senior players in the world. In the team semi-finals she defeated Amanda Paton, of Canada, 9-1, 9-1, 9-2, with an air

of disdain that suggested she was holding her best shots to secure the junior world title which Lucy Scutter denied her in the last final in Dublin two years ago.

The Canadians are a growing force in more ways than their obvious improvement to a semi-final place. Although they lost comprehensively to Australia, they shook the confidence of the defending team champions in the lower order. Their third string, Kelsey Lundmark, a tall and exuberant blonde from Calgary who towers above her teenage opponents on court and leaves them floundering for style off it, needs only a degree of expert toughening to step straight into media success on the international circuit.

Donna Vandy, the British under-19 champion, Senga Macfie, the second string and Dunlop Champion of Champions for the past two years, Sue Wright, the British doubles champion with her elder sister, Debbie, are an unlikely looking crew but under the team management of Jayne Ashton, have become a closely knit and supportive group quite capable of launching England on a busy season of world championships with success both at team and individual level.

MODERN PENTATHLON

Scent of success for Britain

By Michael Coleman

The British team competing at the men's world championship, starting in Moutins, France, tomorrow, has an air of expectancy not matched since the team that took Olympic gold in Montreal in 1976.

As always, the horses supplied will be crucial, but if the British team find them compatible, the 11-year wait for success — and for the sponsorship that goes with it — may be over.

The trio — almost certainly Richard Phelps, Graham Brookhouse, and Dominic Mahony, with Peter Hare as reserve — are well aware of their responsibility

ities and their form can rarely have been better.

Add, too, that there has been an anti-doping campaign in the sport, enabling the British, for once, to compete as equals and again their chances are enhanced.

Individual pride will also play a part: Phelps will want to establish his domestic authority over Brookhouse, who last month wrested his national title, while Mahony, a lieutenant in the Life Guards, has the all-round talent to beat them both.

This developing rivalry promises rich rewards.

After today's show jumping, Mahony, a former national epic champion, can be expected to gain authority in tomorrow's fencing, while Brookhouse has the power to win the 300m swimming on Friday.

Ground will be lost in Saturday's pistol shooting, but surely all three will be extremely powerful in the closing 4,000m cross-country race on Sunday.

In the absence of the Soviet title-holder, Anatoly Starostin, banned for drugs-taking, and with less likelihood of drug abuse this time, the scent of British success is strong.

Court of Appeal

Service gratuity immune from order

Ransom v Ransom
Before Lord Justice May and Mr Justice Waterhouse
(Judgment July 24)

An order that a husband, on his discharge from the Royal Air Force, pay his former wife a lump sum equal to a percentage of his terminal gratuity was void under section 203 of the Royal Air Force Act 1955, and the courts had no jurisdiction to make such an order under section 23(1)(c) of the Matrimonial Causes Act 1973.

The Court of Appeal so held, dismissing an appeal by the wife, Mrs Veronica Linda Ransom, from Judge May's order in the Norwich County Court on March 30 had allowed an appeal by the husband, Mr Martin Grant Ransom, from an order of the registrar which had required him to make a lump sum payment to her on his discharge from the air force equal to 20 per cent of his terminal gratuity.

Section 203 of the Air Force Act 1955 (which is identical to section 203 of the Army Act 1955) provides: "(1) Every assignment of or charge on, and every agreement to assign or charge, any pay, air-force award, grant, pension or allowance payable to any person in respect of his ... service in her Majesty's air forces shall be void."

made by any court the effect of which would be to restrain any person from receiving anything which by virtue of this section he is precluded from assigning and to direct payment thereof to another person."

Mr Stephen Spence for the wife; Mr Timothy Townsend for the husband.

LORD JUSTICE MAY said that the wife had argued that, strictly construed, section 203 did not affect the registrar's order, since it did not constitute a charge on the gratuity or direct that any part of it should be paid to the wife or restrict the husband in his disposition of it; it was merely an order that the husband make a payment from his capital resources and did not direct where the money should come from.

The husband had contended that the section should be construed purposively so as to give effect to the spirit of what Parliament had intended in enacting it, and that the wife's construction would drive a coach and horses through the protection which Parliament had intended section 203 to confer on servicemen.

The Court had been referred to *Walker v Walker* (1983) Fam 683, *Roberts v Roberts* (1986) 1 WLR 437 and *Morris v Morris* (1977) 7 Fam Law 244. If the husband's argument were correct it could give rise to an anomaly in that section 203

would clearly not prevent a court, when making a lump sum order against an ex-serviceman, taking account of the gratuity which he had already received, whereas it would have to disregard the prospective gratuity of a current serviceman.

In his Lordship's view it would be right for a court, when considering whether it would be fair and reasonable in all the circumstances to make a lump sum order against an ex-serviceman, at least to have in mind the source of his capital and to take into account the purpose of section 203 and the effect which it had on lump sum orders against those still serving.

His Lordship accepted the husband's submission that the registrar's order contravened section 203 and was therefore void.

Although there had been no power to make lump sum orders in matrimonial proceedings in 1955 and Parliament would not therefore have had them in mind when it passed section 203, and on a strict construction of the section and the registrar's order the latter did not contravene the former, the proper approach was that of the Court of Appeal in *Walker*: the section should be construed purposively in accordance with its clear intention.

The registrar's order was in clear breach of the spirit of section 203 in that its effect

although not its form, was to direct the payment of 20 per cent of the husband's gratuity to another person. The judge had been correct and the appeal should be dismissed.

MR JUSTICE WATERHOUSE, concurring, said that he questioned whether it was proper to order small lump sum payments to be made in the distant future: the principles enunciated by Lord Justice Purchas in *Milne v Milne* (1981) 2 FLR 286, 288, and Mr Justice Wood in *Roberts*, which governed whether a lump sum application should be adjourned, should apply equally to such orders.

Such an order was particularly inappropriate where the length of the period until the order was to take effect was not only substantial but dependent on the husband's decision as to the length of his service.

If, however, it were certain that the husband's service would terminate shortly an adjournment might be appropriate, but on the adjourned hearing the court in considering what was a fair and appropriate lump sum should have in mind the purpose of section 203, which was to preserve the gratuity and prevent the serviceman being inhibited in the disposal of the money.

Solicitors: Iliffes for Greenland Houschen, Norwich; Belmores, Norwich.

Law Report August 12 1987

Insurers must litigate in England

E. I. du Pont de Nemours & Co and Another v Agnew and Others
Before Lord Justice Fox, Lord Justice Neill and Lord Justice Bingham
(Judgment July 21)

Where there were insurance policies to which English law applied, the assured was entitled to such indemnity as English law afforded and where there was an issue as to whether public policy precluded the recovery of sums awarded in an American court as punitive damages, that was a factor which weighed heavily in favour of the English court being the most convenient forum for deciding that issue.

The Court of Appeal so held, dismissing an appeal by 13 defendant insurers from a decision of Mr Justice Steyn who had granted summary judgment for the plaintiff, E. I. du Pont de Nemours & Co and Endo Laboratories Inc.

Mr Jonathan Mance, QC and Mr Jeremy Cooke for all save the 12th defendant; Mr Christopher C. Russell for the 12th defendant; Mr Christopher Clarke, QC and Mr B. C. N. Speller for the plaintiffs.

LORD JUSTICE BINGHAM said that in 1977 Mr George

Chelos was given an anti-coagulant drug, Coumadin, during post-operative treatment. Necrosis developed in both his legs, which had to be amputated below the knee.

He began proceedings against the plaintiffs in the circuit court of Cook County, Illinois, alleging not only negligence in manufacturing, distributing and selling the drug, but also wilful and wanton misconduct.

The action was tried by a judge and jury who awarded Mr Chelos compensatory damages of \$13,172,340 and punitive damages of \$26,083,000 which was subsequently reduced to \$13 million.

The plaintiffs were insured against product liability claims and the defendants in the present action were all insurers. Four days after Mr Chelos had obtained judgment the plaintiffs issued a writ in the Commercial Court of the Queen's Bench Division in London against the all resident defendants who were claiming a declaration that the plaintiffs were entitled to be indemnified by the defendants against their liability to Mr Chelos.

The writ was subsequently amended to join the fourth to thirteen defendants who were resident out of the jurisdiction. Leave was given to serve out of the jurisdiction on those defen-

dants other than the 12th defendant. The 12th defendant began proceedings in Illinois, seeking a declaration that they were not bound to indemnify the plaintiffs against the jury's award of punitive damages and seeking an injunction to restrain the English proceedings.

The reason for that was that public policy in Illinois precluded or might preclude indemnification of an assured against an award of punitive damages based on his personal liability (as opposed to vicarious liability). A corporation was regarded as personally rather than vicariously liable for the acts of its senior management.

Since punitive damages were awarded to punish a defendant for grossly reprehensible conduct, it was said to be contrary to the public policy of Illinois that he should escape his personal liability to him, by obtaining indemnity from his insurer.

Thus the insurers had an obvious incentive to seek trial in Illinois while the plaintiffs hoped that in England because policy imposed no insuperable obstacle to their recovery of full indemnity.

The first three defendants applied to stay the action on the grounds of *forum non conveniens* and the other defendants alternatively to stay the

action. Mr Justice Steyn dismissed the application before judgment was delivered by the Lord of Lords in *The Spiliada* (1986) 3 WLR 972, which set out the principles applicable in considering a *forum non conveniens*. The judge therefore, through no fault of his own, gave undue weight to the plaintiffs' tactical advantage in suing in England.

However, there was one factor which weighed heavily in favour of the English forum. In his Lordship's judgment the plaintiffs' policies were governed by English law and accordingly they were entitled to such indemnity as on a proper construction of the policies English law afforded them.

The English court was necessarily better placed than any other to rule on that question. The plaintiffs had been charged with no crime and had been charged with none. There was no decision of a foreign court which denied them indemnity.

If English public policy was to be held to deny the right to indemnity in the circumstances then the English court and no other could so hold. It was not a question capable of fair resolution in a foreign court, however distinguished or well instructed.

Lord Justice Fox and Lord Justice Neill agreed.

Solicitors: Barlow Lyde & Gilbert; Stephenson Harwood; McKenna & Co.

Court of Appeal

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